Manitoba

Annual Report 13:1985

Manitoba Environmental Council

Manitoba Environmental Council Box 139, 139 Tuxedo Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 0H6

Our file:

May 1, 1986

The Honourable Gerard Lecuyer
Minister of Environment and
Workplace Safety and Health
Room 156 Legislative Building
450 Broadway Avenue
Winnipeg, MB.
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Lecuyer:

I have the honour to present herewith Annual Report 13:1985 of the Manitoba Envionrmental Council.

This report details the Council's activities during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1985, and includes information regarding the Annual Meeting on May 10, 1985.

Yours truly,

Diane F Malley.

Dr. Diane F. Malley
Chairperson

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Chairperson's Report

Atish Maniar

The second year (1984-1985) of my chairmanship of the Council was a lot easier and more productive as we had two staff members working full time for our Council. There was a marked improvement in efficiency and overall communication amongst the Council members.

A backlog of publications was reduced as you will read in the report of the Publications Committee. I must thank Mr. Schoch for doing an excellent job.

The briefs and resolutions of this year are timely and are of high quality as can be seen by the reports of our various committees.

The Council participated in Canadian Environment Week, June 1984, which has become an annual event under the aegis of Environment Canada.

The Council's Semi-Annual meeting was held on November 30, 1984 at the Legislative Building. The Honourable Gerard Lecuyer, Minister of Environment, Workplace Safety & Health, spoke at that time assuring us of his support. His presentation was very informative and thought-provoking. I wish to thank the Honourable Mr. Lecuyer and Dr. Owen for their help, continuous guidance, interest in our work, and sympathetic attitude in the Council's deliberations. The Semi-Annual meeting was also highlighted by an excellent public forum on some activities of Manitoba Hydro. Mr. Chris Goodwin, Mr. Lin Poyser and Mr. Ed Tymofichuk spoke on various aspects and activities of Manitoba Hydro. Dr. Diane Malley, Vice-Chairperson of the Manitoba Environmental Council will report on this eventful public forum.

Once again, the cartoon contest in the spring of 1985 was a huge success. There was a total of 305 entries and 7 prizes were issued. Some of these cartoons are shown throughout the report. The imagination and environmental concerns demonstrated by these participants were inspiring. I'm confident the cartoon contest is a proven effective tool toward environmental education and, as such, will continue on an annual basis.

The Council was represented at the meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council held on December 15-16, 1984. The report on the Manitoba Environmental Council presented at the June 5-6, 1983 meeting was published by the Environmental Advisory Council in their May 1984 issue.

We were represented in the annual consultation meetings called by The Honourable Gerard Lecuyer in November 1984. This was a productive meeting and it is gratifying to state that our concerns regarding testing of chemicals in drinking water were heard very sympathetically.

I thank all the chairpersons of the Technical Committees and the Regional chairpersons for their active participation, and their cooperation and assistance. The details of their commendable activities are included in their annual reports.

I am grateful to Dr. Diane Malley for her help, support, active participation and for taking over the responsibilities in my absence. Thanks also to Keri Barringer and her assistant for their help, quickness and administrative efforts. I wish to thank all the Council members for their cooperation, participation and enthusiastic support.

Board of Directors, Annual Meeting May 10, 1985. From Left to Right: 1st Row — Mr. D.S. Schellenberg, Miss C. Howlett, Dr. D. Malley, Dr. A. Maniar, Mrs. B. Pawlicki, Mr. E. Johanson, Ms. K. Barringer. 2nd Row — Mr. G. Schoch, Mr. B. Silver, Mr. B. Wild, Dr. B. Rotoff, Dr. T. Neraasen.

Vice-Chairperson's Report

Diane Malley

This was the first full year of Council operation with the benefit of two full-time staff members allowing the Council to extend its activities and initiate new ones.

Planning began on two public participation conferences to be sponsored or co-sponsored by MEC. The idea for one developed following a meeting on June 13 in Winnipeg of some of the Board members with Jacques Gerin, the Deputy Minister of the federal Department of Environment. He expressed an interest in seeing enhanced public participation on environmental issues and indicated DOE's willingness to cooperate in planning. Basil Rotoff and I developed a scenario for a 2-day conference on "Our Manitoban Waters: A Dialogue" designed to generate meaningful dialogue between the public, government and environmental agencies. Progress toward implementation was halted when federal funds were frozen following the last federal election. The Council was approached to co-sponsor a conference on Heritage and Habitat with Parks Canada, the Manitoba Parks

Branch and one or two other organizations to be held in 1985 as part of Parks Canada Centennial and the 25th Anniversary of Manitoba provincial parks. Keri Barringer and I met with Celes Davar, Chief Parks Naturalist, Riding Mountain National Park, on February 14 and indicated that MEC would participate on a planning committee. This conference has since been moved beyond late 1985 to provide more lead-time for organization.

The Council sponsored a public forum as part of its semi-annual meeting with three representatives from Manitoba Hydro. I wish to again thank Mr. Chris Goodwin, Lin Poyser and Ed Tymofichuk for their informative presentations on environmental aspects of Manitoba Hydro's operation.

On October 24, I presented a brief on behalf of the Council to the Inquiry on Federal Water Policy indicating policy of the Council on some water issues. The brief urged that water management be river basin-based and include groundwater and receiving coastal waters. I edited a follow-up brief to the Inquiry from the Environmental Chemicals Committee which urged that Canada develop interim or tentative water quality guidelines for exotic organics such as some poly-aromatic hydrocarbons, furans and dioxins until the necessary research can be done to establish appropriate objectives.

Other duties included drafting a letter to the Minister of Culture, Heritage and Recreation indicating the Board's opposition to the construction of a commercial waterslide in Grand Valley Recreation Park which had been proposed to be designated a Heritage Park. I chaired the Board meeting of March 8 in the absence of the Chairman. On June 14, I represented the Council at the Reception and Dinner hosted by the Science Council of Canada at the Fort Garry Hotel.

This year the Council has become more involved with the Manitoba Environmental Network, has circulated its newsletter to our membership and on May 11 will participate in a one-day workshop on prairie toxic chemical management.

Minister's Address

The Honourable Gerard Lecuyer

It is a pleasure for me to be here this morning. Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you at the opening of your annual meeting. Where ever possible, I always like to be an **opening** speaker — in that way I can't contradict what has been said by a previous speaker and I don't run the risk of covering ground you may have heard before.

I was looking at your agenda and I see you have your work cut out for you today. Also, I would like to say thank you for fitting in the presentation by Mr. Bezak. I know this was a late entry on your agenda and we are grateful to you for giving us this time to present our proposed atmospheric emission guidelines.

Mr. Bezak will be going into detail about the proposed emission guidelines so I don't want to comment too much further, except to say that I will be looking forward to seeing your constructive comments. As I have stated to you on numerous occasions, our government is deeply interested in gaining as much input as possible from the Manitoba Environmental Council. We certainly value your advice.

I know that the Council has been active on a number of fronts since I spoke to you last November. I understand your various technical committees have been busy, and correct me if I'm wrong, but I think I am up to date in responding to your briefs.

I know the Council has also been very active with "Environment Week" preparations and the Environmental Education Review Committee. Ron Phillips of your Council was among several representatives of the Environmental Education Review Committee that met a number of weeks back with myself, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Natural Resources. The brief presented to us was extremely well done and I am looking forward to working with the various parties involved, particularly the Department of Education in advancing the cause of environmental education.

Being a former teacher myself, I fully recognize the importance of integrating environmental education into our curriculum. This is extremely important **especially** in the formative years of school. I understand that Department of Education staff are working with the Environmental Education Review Committee in designing a specific action plan. I'm looking forward to seeing the fruits of that effort. I think both the Council and, in particular, the Manitoba Forestry Association should be commended for furthering the cause of environmental education through this special committee.

I know that we will be making the presentation to the winners of the cartoon contest later this morning. However, since I've got the opportunity **now** and may not get it later, I want to commend you on this excellent public awareness program. I have seen a num-

ber of the cartoons already and it's certainly apparent to me that we have got some budding artists in our province.

I was amazed at some of the imaginative and intuitive entries. Whoever thought of the cartoon contest a number of years back should be given a medal.

I particularly like the fact that it involves young Manitobans in a positive and creative way in fostering environmental awareness. So whatever you do, don't give it up because, in my opinion, it is an excellent approach to furthering the cause.

In addition, it is always nice to have some humour. Working with environmental problems on a daily basis can sometimes get pretty weighty and, as a result, it's nice to have some levity.

Prior to getting to my main message today, I wanted to thank you as well for sending me the **"Ecology and Conservation Guide"** that the Council worked on in cooperation with the Manitoba Naturalist Society. I was most impressed with the five pamphlets that were put together on urban rivers and streams. I am sure this package will be particularly welcomed by schools throughout the province. I guess what struck me most about the package was its relevance to urban dwellers. City residents often don't realize that there are environmental issues in urban areas as well.

The principal reason I wanted to talk to you today was to update you on our Hazardous Waste Program and to ask for your assistance. As you may recall, when I spoke to you last November I asked the Council to consider focussing your attention on some of our departmental priorities. Our Hazardous Waste Program is one of these priorities and as a result I am coming back to you with a specific request. However, prior to getting into detail, I would like to refresh your memory on what we've accomplished to date under our program.

As you may recall, the Manitoba Hazardous and Special Waste Management Program was initiated by my predecessor, the Honourable Jay Cowan, on November 5, 1983. Shortly after the program was announced, our department hired a coordinator to begin the task of implementing the 3-phased program.

One of the major cornerstones of our program has been, and **will** continue to be, active public involvement. Accordingly, one of the very first activities under Phase I of our program was to hold a major Manitoba Symposium on Hazardous Wastes. I know many of you in this room participated in that symposium in March of 1983. As you will recall, we appointed an 8-member steering committee under the leadership of the Council's former Chairman, Bill Kennedy.

If you recall, some 450 Manitobans from all walks of life participated in this symposium and it resulted in 19 specific recommendations being presented to our government. These recommendations covered the gamet from research to public involvement to site selection.

To date we have implemented a good many of the symposium recommendations, but we still have a long way to go. The conference provided us with an excellent beginning to our program. On an ongoing basis, we constantly refer to the report as we proceed with our planning. As a matter of fact, I was reviewing the symposium report just a few weeks back in the knowledge that we will be accelerating our Hazardous Waste Program over the course of the next year.

Just to continue on with my outline of the history of the program — following the symposium we set to work on drafting comprehensive hazardous waste legislation. Departmental staff participated in an extensive consultation effort on the legislation and as a result, last summer our government passed the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act. In our view, it is one of the most comprehensive pieces of enabling legislation of its type in North America. This new act covers the handling, storage, transportation, and ultimate disposal of dangerous goods. We have integrated our legislation under one act to give us a strong legislative foundation for the hazardous waste management system we are building. Over the course of last year, staff of the department have been busy in drafting regulations under this new act. I am pleased to announce here today that Cabinet just passed the first regulation under this act.

This regulation lists all the substances to be regulated under the new act, some 3,000 in number. I'm sure you will appreciate the logistics and complexity involved when you're working on a program to regulate some 3,000 chemical substances. That is the principal reason why our program is proceeding in a slow and methodical fashion.

Our Department has also been active over the past year developing a number of the regulations which I will be taking to Cabinet in the near future. They include such things as the development of a manifest program and licencing of hazardous waste haulers and disposal companies.

Another major component of the first phase of our program included a round of hearings by the Clean Environment Commission. As you may recall, those hearings were held in a number of communities across the province in December of 1983 and early 1984. The report of the public hearings was released in February this year and it was circulated widely for comment. The findings of the Commission have already been incorporated into our program planning for the next year.

In addition to the hearings, our Department also carried out an active public awareness program. We have

mailed out hundreds of pamphlets, brochures, and reports. We have responded to virtually thousands of enquiries from both corporations and private citizens.

Also, a year and a half ago, our department launched a major blitz of industries in Manitoba. We used all available field staff over a 2 month period to visit some 700-800 major industries in Manitoba. The purpose of this visitation program was two-fold.

1. To get an inventory of the wastes being generated by the industry and the current waste streams; and
2. To brief the industries on our program and the requirements of the new legislation.

Our hazardous waste staff has now grown to 8 full time employees. In addition to this, we are also moving to computerize operations, build up our laboratory capability and provide for government and private sector training.

This, then, is a thumb nail sketch of our actions to date. I would now like to turn your attention to what's going to be happening over the next 7-8 months. As I mentioned before, we will be accelerating our efforts. I also want to share with you my ideas on how the Council could assist us.

Within the next month I will be releasing a comprehensive report on hazardous waste management in Manitoba. This report will provide the basis for the next round of Clean Environment Commission public hearings which are scheduled to begin mid October. This detailed report, which our staff have been working on for the past year, will contain what we consider to be a fairly accurate inventory of the hazardous wastes generated in our province. The report also deals with available technology and the options open to our province in designing a hazardous waste management system.

If the Council is agreeable, once this report is released, I would like to make arrangements for our staff to fully brief your executive on the findings. Once this has been done, I would like your Council to consider preparing a detailed response to this report. You may even want to consider holding a public forum on this issue. In this way, we as a government benefit from your wisdom and at the same time, we further public awareness about hazardous and toxic wastes.

As I mentioned earlier, I want to utilize your expertise as much as possible on departmental priorities. I see our Hazardous Waste Program as an excellent opportunity to do just that.

Another activity that we are planning for late August and September of this year is a major public awareness effort. Here again, if it is agreeable with your executive, I would like our staff to make a presentation on the planned Public Education Program. As you may recall, one of the major findings of the first round of Clean Environment Commission hearings focussed on the need for a substantial increase in public awareness. This public awareness is crucial if we are to create a climate for meaningful public involvement in our hazardous waste decision-making process.

Also, the public opinion surveys that we have done over the last 3 years have demonstrated that while Manitobans are concerned about the issue of hazardous waste, they don't see it as really being a **serious** problem in our province. This then is further rationale for an effective public awareness program.

The third major activity planned for 1985 are Clean Environment Commission hearings this fall. As I mentioned earlier, these hearings are targeted to begin in mid October and they will probably run until the end of November. They will be held in a number of locations across Manitoba. They are designed to solicit public opinion and provide our government with a recommendation on the preferred option for dealing with hazardous wastes in Manitoba.

In addition, these hearings will result in recommendations on site selection, including the criteria that should be used in choosing a location for storage or treatment operations.

These hearings are the **final chapter** in Phase I of our Hazardous Waste Program. Once they are complete we will be moving into Phase II which will consist of system design and site selection.

The hearings in the fall then are **extremely important** and as such I would urge the Council to take an active role. You may want to consider presenting one comprehensive brief, or you may want to put forward a series of briefs on the various issues to be addressed.

I can't emphasize to you enough, how important it is for your Council to make your views known at this upcoming set of hearings. The decisions to be made on the basis of these hearings will be fundamental to the success of our Hazardous Waste Management Program.

As you can see, we are going to be **extremely busy** over the next 7-8 months as we accelerate our program and conclude Phase I. It is our hope that if we continue to receive adequate resources and staff, we will be in a position to have an integrated hazardous waste management system in place in Manitoba in 3-4 years time.

If your Council executive wishes, we can schedule a meeting in the near future to discuss my specific requests. As I stated, we value your unbiased opinion and want to take full advantage of it.

Prior to closing, I just wanted to offer my congratulations and best wishes to your new executive.

I am looking forward to working with Dr. Diane Malley and I am sure she has some innovative ideas for the year ahead. I would also like to take this opportunity

to publicly thank Dr. Maniar. Dr. Maniar has done a superb job as your spokesman and chairman. I have enjoyed working with him very much. Good luck in your deliberations today and I look forward to responding to any briefs that may emanate from today's meeting.

Thank you very much.

* * *

Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Coordinator's Report

Keri Barringer

The following are special activities which the Manitoba Environmental Council participated in during the 1984/85 fiscal year:

1. A brief presented to the Clean Environment Commission Hearings, on the proposed treatment of the Souris River with Abate for the Control of blackfly larvae June 14, 1984, Hartney, Manitoba.
2. A brief presented of the Executive Policy Committee of the City of Winnipeg — June, 1984. Manitoba Environmental Council's position on fogging for the control of nuisance mosquitoes.
3. A brief presented to the Inquiry on Federal Water Policy — October 24, 1984. Outlined the concerns on water addressed by the Manitoba Environmental Council, and the needs for a Canadian Water Policy.
4. Participation in the annual consultation meetings with the Honourable Gerard Lecuyer, November, 1984. Letter to the Minister outlining concerns of the Council and recommending some specific actions which could be taken.
5. A brief presented to the Clean Environment Commission Hearings on the proposed Surface Water Quality Objectives for Manitoba — November, 1984. Brief outlined recommended actions to specific concerns.
6. An intervention was presented by the Energy Committee to the National Energy Board Hearings on November 10, 1984. Concerns were raised regarding environmental input surveys on current projects.
7. Three presentations were made by Manitoba Hydro employees at the November 30, 1984 Semi-Annual Meeting. Subjects addressed were:
   (a) Environmental impact studies
   (b) Transmission lines
   (c) Policies on environmental matters.

Planned activities for the 1986/87 fiscal year include:

1. A two day workshop/seminar entitled "Our Manitoban Waters".
2. A joint seminar between MEC and National Parks entitled "Habitat and Heritage — A Means for Preserving Manitoba's Landscape".

The Naturally Clean Rivers Project was completed on March 31, 1985, and the "Ecology and Conservation Guide" was successfully completed and printed. Copies are provided today for display purposes and additional copies are available from the Manitoba Naturalists Society at 128 James Avenue.

Dawn Turner has been re-hired through the 1985 S.T.E.P. student program and will be coordinating the Recycling Workshop June 4-5, 1985. This workshop is sponsored by the Recycling Council of Manitoba. An information brochure outlining the workshop will be mailed to all MEC members in the near future.

The Committee for Canadian Environment Week continues to plan and make arrangements for an eventful week, June 2-8, 1985. Highlights of this week's events include:

June 2 — Opening event at the Museum of Man and Nature. Presentation of the three winning environmental plays will take place from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

June 3 — Mini lectures — Wpg. Centennial Library
12:00-1:30 p.m.
Topics:
1) The Greenhouse Effect
2) Hazardous Waste in the Everyday Environment

June 4 — Museum of Man and Nature Auditorium in conjunction with Parks Centennial-Programming.
12:15-12:45 p.m.
— Prov. Parks System Planning
7:00-8:00 p.m.
— Fed. Parks, Now and in the Future

June 3-5 — National Film Board Series, Cinema Main, 245 Main Street
8:00-9:30 p.m.

June 6-8 — Mall displays, St. Vital Centre, Cartoon Contest Winners Display.

An information package containing a calendar of events for Environment Week will be mailed to all members in the near future.

The application to the Challenge 85 summer research program has been accepted. A student will be hired as a research assistant, to look at the current concern for preservation of wildlife and the economics of management in both user and non-user groups, in Manitoba's Provincial Parks System. The project will be fifteen weeks in length.

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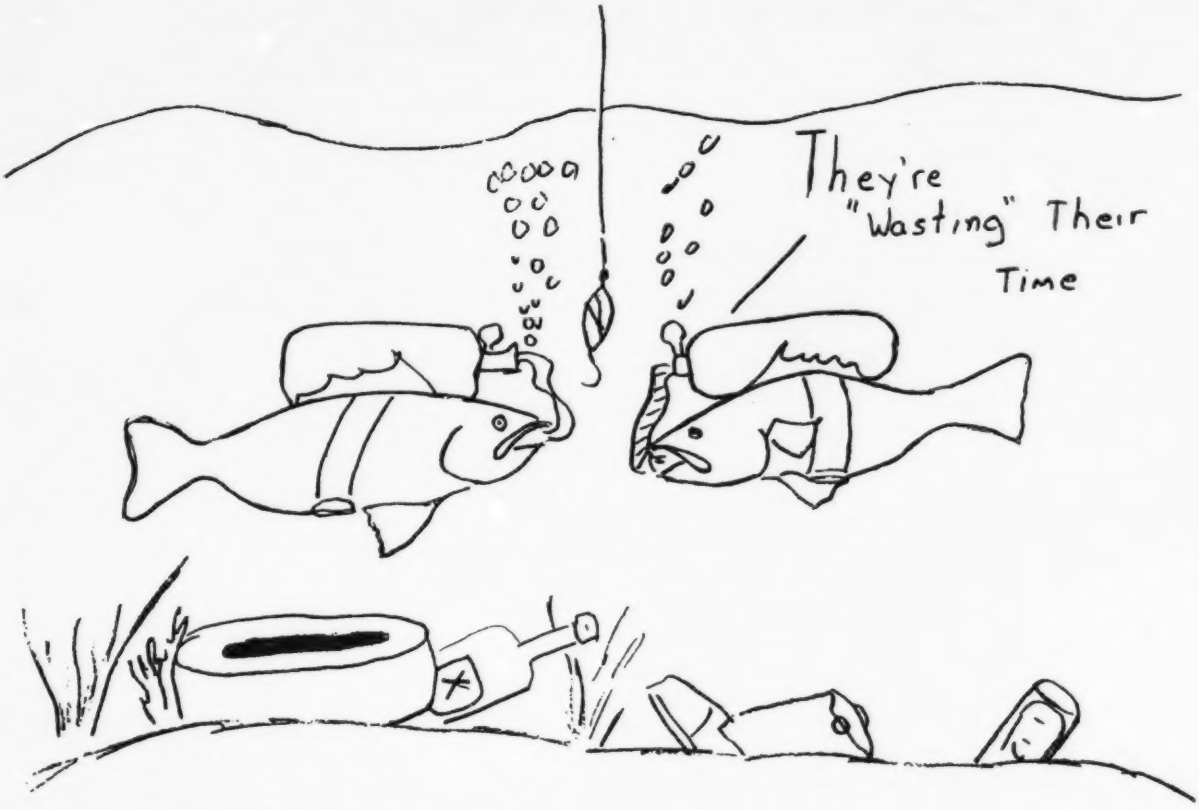
Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting



Category Grades 10-12 — 1st Prize — Farley Bird, O'Hanly, MB

Regional Reports

Northern

E.B. Johanson

The Norman Region encompasses approximately two-thirds of the Province of Manitoba or the area being north of the 53rd parallel.

The Norman Regional Development Corporation is in the process of advertising for a new General Manager.

The following environmental matters continue to present themselves to the Corporation and its members.

Herbicide:

The use of herbicides in forest management is now a very controversial matter involving the public in general, industry (Manfor) and provincial foresters.

The public in general are very much against the use of herbicides maintaining that the effects of the environment are not known and should not be used before such information is available.

Industry (Manfor) is concerned that without the use of herbicides sustained yield of preferred species cannot be maintained and the operation remain economically viable in a competitive world market. Manual thinning and weeding cost, if borne by the industry, would force industry into bankruptcy.

Forest managers for the province believe that a form of limited, controlled use of herbicides will be necessary on plantation areas and developed in controlled study areas together with a program of public education. It is also believed that a monitoring committee should be created and made up of members of the public, industry and forestry.

At present the 40 hectare experimental area is on hold pending future decisions.

Provincial Tree Nursery — Clearwater Lake:

Orientation and development of this nursery continues with 400,000 trees planted this past season involving one operator. Plans are for 2 operators for the coming season with a target of 3.2 million trees. Planting of these is to be divided, 2.4 million by Manfor and 800,000 by the province.

The spring of 1985 will see 12 greenhouses in operation and 6 shade frames. The office building is complete with plans to construct a seed line building — this system together with a bunkhouse and a resident manager's house.

A volunteer group is endeavoring to locate a component of Manitoba Forestry Association adjacent to the nursery and Clearwater Provincial Park to serve the surrounding area.

Forest Management — Hand Thinning:

Hand thinning operations continued this past summer. Provincial foresters employed 2 to 25 persons commencing in early August and continued as long as weather permitted. Moose Lake and Arctic areas were involved. The Manfor program operated for 12 weeks employing 15 to 20 men.

Manual thinning, relative to herbicide use is by far the most expensive but no doubt the most safe. Industry can hardly be expected to handle the entire cost of manual thinning and function financially. It should be realized that society as a whole will have to accept some of the costs relative to manual thinning costs.

Saskatchewan River:

This major river is of concern to the municipality of The Pas, both from the quantity of water available and its quality. Because of the low levels of water for a short period this past summer, emergency pumps had to be installed in order to adequately supply the town. Water levels are being affected by power and other developments further upstream.

Quality of Saskatchewan River water has long been a concern of its users and continues to get worse instead of better. Recent reports of P.C.B.'s in the water are now being checked in order to confirm their authenticity.

Two alternative water supplies could be considered; Clearwater Lake and a pipeline or deep wells. Costs are the main blocking factors.

Power Transmission Line — Limestone-Churchill:

Consultants are now involved in line location and environmental impact. Due to the remoteness of the area and the sparse human population, monitoring this operation proves most difficult.

Hudson Bay Hydrocarbon Exploration:

Exploration work continued this summer to the best of our knowledge with no known drilling to date. Information is difficult to obtain. Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. of Calgary is believed to be involved. The environmental impact to our coastline and that of Ontario and Quebec should be of concern as well as that of the Northwest Territories. Marine life together with all our shoreline environment could be seriously affected. Steps should now be taken to involve all interests and ensure that adequate protection to the environment exists prior to any drilling taking place. We should all be alerted now and not wait till drilling is being done.

Rail Bus — Thicket Portage-Thompson:

Norman Rural District Community has been instrumental in promoting better passenger and express facilities to communities serviced by rail but not road, and believes this could be a positive step. A minimum of environmental impact is expected.

Trial runs are planned between Thompson and Thicket Portage during the month of November.

* * *

Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

Forest Management:

All indications are that Manfor in conjunction with Provincial Forestry will be doing some limited and experimental spraying of herbicides in order to speed up the replacement of the preferred species.

Oil Exploration — Hudson Bay:

It has been announced that drilling will take place under a budget of forty million dollars during a three month period this summer. It appears Manitoba is not involved. However, because of our unique coastline we should be involved to the extent that we keep abreast of what is taking place and that regulations pertinent to our environment are carried out and enforced. Otherwise, we could find we will never know of the damages till it is too late. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Minago Gas Spill:

At the May 1st meeting of the Wildlife Planning and Advisory Board under the Northern Flood Agreement, the matter was brought up by the Cross Lake representative. He expressed disappointment that no

one from the Department of Environment came to speak to them on this matter. At that time no bad effects were reported by the trappers. Indications are that time is a great healer.

Manitoba Forestry Association:

The component planned for, adjacent to the Provincial tree nursery in Clearwater Provincial Park, is slowly progressing and a site location approved in principle.

Manitoba Hydro — Use of Insecticide:

In no way do we want to impede hydro development. However, insect control in the work area should be closely regulated and enforced. Such spraying should not be carte blanche but only as necessary to the job at hand. Spraying in the Gillam area during previous construction did have a major effect on large populations of insectivorous birds.

Provincial Parks 25th Anniversary:

Celebrations are planned this summer for the following parks in the Northern Region:

Clearwater Lake, Grass River, Point Lake

* * *

Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Parkland

Barry Wild

Camperville Métis Self-Government leader Ferdinand Guiboche stated last May that one of his immediate goals is to secure the closing of Lake Winnipegosis to enable renewal of badly depleted fish stocks. Perhaps he was not party to the same information on near record catches as are the fishermen resident 50 km south in Winnipegosis. Nelson Beauchamp, Minister of Natural Resources for the territory claimed the Métis of Camperville has been issuing fishing licences (unrecognized by the province). Guiboche has been quoted in the press as stating, "If we decide to cut wood, we'll cut wood contrary to provincial law. If we want to fish, we'll fish contrary to provincial law." There have been no charges laid with respect to either of those activities and one shudders to think of the fate in store for the big game animals in the area.

As an offshoot of the study of 22 landfill sites throughout Manitoba, higher than safe recommended levels of nitrate have been detected in two wells near the Winnipegosis dump. Further study is being undertaken to determine whether the nitrate is from a natural source or whether it originates from the landfill site itself.

At the end of June, 4000 ha in the Garland area were under water as a consequence of one night's torrential rain (90 mm) with roads washed out in at least 20 places and with the toll on crops, damage to property and disruption of transportation very extensive. The R.M. of Ethelbert has long contended that excessive water, racing from the Duck Mountains overloads the drainage systems under their jurisdiction. After viewing the flooded area from the air, the Hon. Al Mackling stated that it would be necessary, ". . . to determine whether our watersheds are being eroded by too much clearing" — likely a combined reference to the timbering operations in the Mountains and to agricultural practices below the escarpment. The flooding was followed within just two weeks by the onset of a severe, summer-long drought during which slower release of the wasted water would have been much appreciated by both human residents and wildlife.

Preliminary work has now begun at the Winnipegosis site of a proposed fish hatchery to replace the one which burned down in Duck Bay two years ago. If Treasury Board approval is received then about a half million dollars will be spent on the facility with actual construction commencing next year. With this and existing rearing and stocking programs, it is hoped to restore Lake Winnipegosis to its historic production level of 400 megatonnes of pickerel annually.

At a Dauphin press conference at the end of August, Natural Resources Minister Al Mackling made public the Dauphin Lake Siltation and Regulation Study commissioned two years ago. Federal and provincial funding along with local direction through a new Dauphin Lake Advisory Board, municipal co-operation in reforming farmland drainage practices and finally the dredging of the 10 km long Mossey River channel were suggested as viable cures for the lake's ills. The Manitoba Water Commission, author of the study, has recommended raising the top end of the provincially regulated lake level by 300 mm (to 256.6 m above sea level) but only after steps have been taken to regulate more carefully water entering and leaving the lake. The release of this study heralds the end of pure research and the commencement of specific actions to improve the condition of the lake. Having released its findings the problem is out of the Commission's hands and it is now up to Mr. Mackling to initiate appropriate activity.

At the end of September, Prince Albert of Monaco visited the Waterhen Wood Bison Project and unveiled a plaque honouring his Mother's (Princess Grace) efforts for conservation. Wildlife artist, Robert Batemen, was also in attendance at the ceremonies and it was announced that the $70,000 proceeds from a print he

had gifted to Princess Grace had been turned over to further the work of the Waterhen Project.

On October 31st, the Clean Environment Commission held a hearing with respect to Selo Ukraina's (proposed site of Canada's National Ukrainian Festival) sewage lagoon which had been excavated in December of last year. There was vociferous opposition from downstream residents along Edwards Creek since many of them draw untreated drinking water directly from that creek. The Commission was told that 17 of 44 water samples taken from Edwards Creek over the past five years have shown higher bacterial counts than that which is being proposed for the eventual sewage discharge. Consideration is being given to a bentonite or a vinyl lining to eliminate possible ground water contamination.

A master study of Manitoba escarpment headwaters which is to integrate the approximately 100 previous ones on drainage, siltation, fish spawning, agricultural priorities, and so on is being undertaken by the Manitoba Escarpment Water Retention Study Steering Committee. Under its chairman, Larry Whitney, recommendations are to be brought forward with the purpose of ameliorating the cycle of flooding and drought which now characterizes the water flowing from the Riding and Duck Mountains.

This year the Parkland was among several other regions of the province to utilize mechanical tree thinning on crown lands as a forest management tool. This is a labour intensive process removing undesirable or closely spaced trees so that those left can then grow straighter and much more rapidly improving eventual marketability.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

The Clean Environment Commission has now approved Selo Ukraina's application for its sewage lagoon with the provisions that the effluent has its organic content reduced to less than 30 mg/L and that effluent only be discharged once per annum within the first two weeks of May. The C.E.C. also instructed Selo Ukraina officials to notify downstream landowners of the timing of the annual discharge as some of those persons utilize Edwards Creek water for domestic purposes. Finally, an acceptable impervious lining (either clay or synthetic sheeting) must be installed in the partially constructed lagoon prior to its initial operation.

The towns of Carman and Dauphin are both participating in a Dutch Elm Disease research project jointly funded by the province and the respective municipalities. Though the range of the fungus already includes Carman, Dauphin's sanitization efforts have, so far, been rewarded with success. Virtually all of its boulevard trees and most of the Vermillion Park elms had their dead or dying limbs pruned last year. In 1985 the major emphasis of this program will be concentrated on the multitude of elms growing all along the banks of the Vermillion River.

Twenty kL of diesel oil was pumped into an already full bulk tank at the Esso plant in Dauphin slopping over into a claylined and diked control area. Most of the fuel was sucked up and on its way back to the Regina refinery within two days of the spill and the Environmental Management Division does not anticipate contamination of the water table to result from this spill. Further monitoring of the ground water will be conducted in the spring.

Proposed heritage legislation was reviewed by the Honourable Eugene Kostyra at a public meeting at the beginning of December, in Dauphin. In the legislation's present form, the province could order Local Governments to conduct (and to fund) impact assessments prior to any developments near or on historic sites, or where archeologically significant artifacts may be encounered.

Two distinct "solutions" to the Garland River's flooding problems have been proposed. The Rural Municipality of Ethelbert is seeking up to $150,000 of provincial money to ditch and dike a swampy area which would then act as a temporary water retention basin. The other, from an area resident, points out that an 11 June 1981 resolution of the Rural Municipality Council to change the location of a take-off ditch was implemented by the Department of Highways during the subsequent construction of P.R. #489. This involved cutting through a ridge thus diverting the river from its natural course and causing overflows to race down the diked highway as though it were an expensive floodway. That flooding has now eroded the offending cut in the ridge by an additional 50-60 cm so this coming spring will likely see even more extensive flooding than last year.

Far stiffer sentences are being meted out to persons convicted of various illegal hunting offences (e.g. poaching, nightlighting). Recently, there have been truly exceptional fines levied (in excess of $2,000) as well as confiscation of vehicles and equipment and even some terms in jail. The Dauphin area, in particular, has noted a substantial increase in successful prosecutions of the more serious types of offenses. This improvement in deterence to violators is credited, in part, to increased awareness and participation from the general public.

On account of the severe and prolonged cold coupled with high winds and crusted snow conditions, game animals have been experiencing inordinate difficulties obtaining adequate food resources. With cooperation from the Game and Fish Associations funds have been and are continuing to be raised. Feed supplies

have been procured with this money and they are being distributed under the Department of Natural Resources big game feeding program to those areas deemed most in need of this form of temporary emergency assistance.

The Town of Dauphin is at odds with Parks Canada over the continued use of Edwards Lake water for municipal purposes. Dauphin's 21 year lease for this resource expired in 1980 and Riding Mountain would rather move towards a conformance with existing national policy on such infringements by requiring the Town to utilize exclusively its Vermillion River source, located outside Park boundaries exclusively.

A third provincial forest centre, this one to be located near Singush Lake in the Duck Mountains, has embarked upon its planning stages. Initiated by the Manitoba Forestry Association, this centre will provide a site for conducting classes in environmental and outdoor education with appropriate emphasis on forests and their management. The other two centres, already in operation, are located in the Sandilands Provincial Forest and in the Interlake. A fourth is being contemplated for the vicinity of The Pas.

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Winnipeg

Elizabeth Pawlicki

With 1984 drawing to a close, this is a good time to review matters of environmental concern in the Pembina Valley.

Altona and the surrounding communities and rural areas have made real progress toward obtaining a more plentiful stable source of potable water. A large pipeline from Letellier to Altona is now in the final stages of construction with a new filter plant scheduled for construction in Letellier in 1985. By the fall of 1985 the water demands of this area should be well provided for with this new system. The town of Emerson is continuing negotiations for a new source of supply and reporting good progress.

The source of water being used is the Red River and the issue of surface water quality management is one which will be of continuing interest to our region.

Soil and water conservation remains an issue of importance. We have brought this matter to the attention of both federal and provincial authorities. However, it remains clear that until there is public perception of the costs and ramifications of this growing problem, limited efforts will be made to decrease the annual losses. Within our region we are looking at the possibility of establishing a Conservation District. In most cases existing districts appear to do primarily drainage work rather than conservation work and a shortage of funding seriously hampers their effectiveness.

Hazardous waste, its handling and disposal continue to be a question of importance. As we have stated before, it will be necessary to develop an effective and equitable policy — equitable in that it will not affect local industry negatively in cost. Should one disposal site be chosen, transport costs to such a site should be equal to all industries and the disposal service should be equally accessible to both urban and rural industries.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

The arrival of spring signals the season of controversy for Winnipeg. Mosquito controls such as fogging rouses the pro and con factions into debate. Much of the city's control — larviciding — proceeds behind the scenes. It is the chemical of choice in the fogging that concerns those being sprayed.

Last year, spraying for cankerworms was widespread. In spite of these control measures the invasion of these insects seems to be ongoing. The application of tanglefoot to tree trunks to disrupt the cycle is widespread among City of Winnipeg homeowners.

The fight to preserve Omand's Creek continues. The construction of a high rise in or on this natural waterway is an intrusion on an area that should be retained as one of Winnipeg's green spaces. Apparently concerns of environmentalists and homeowners in the area are being disregarded.

A recent review concludes that the amount of asbestos fibers in our water is of small risk. The city has indicated that when tenders are called for new or replacement pipes, that contractors can use asbestos cement or plastic pipes.

The water quality of the Red River should continue to concern Manitobans. The City of Winnipeg is amongst contributors to the pollution of that waterway. The problems and costs involved in cleaning up the river are recognized. It is to be hoped that future prospects for this waterway will include gradual upgrading of water quality.

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Category Open — 2nd Prize — Dr. John Didyck, Winnipeg, MB

MANITOBA ENVIRONMENT

Technical Committees Reports

Education

Ron Phillips

The Education Committee met regularly on a monthly basis, September, 1984 to May, 1985. The following committee members participated actively in these meetings: H. Driedger, L. Norman, C. Thexton, J. Shay, R. Phillips.

Major thrusts by the Committee include:

1. The completion of the Manitoba Environmental Council Orientation kit for new members.
2. The conducting of the M.E.C. Cartoon contest.

3. The further development of a bank of Manitoba environmentally related trivia questions.
4. Interpretations and recommendations for a recently administered Manitoba environmental education survey.
5. The publicizing and distribution of past M.E.C. cartoons.
6. The committee research of urban recycling and green space availability.
7. The establishment of M.E.C. criteria for the Manitoba School Science Symposium awards.
8. The assessment of curriculum material for the classroom.

Environmental Cartoon Contest

There were 305 entries in the cartoon contest. Two winners were from rural Manitoba, five were from Winnipeg. Awards were presented by the Honourable Gerard Lecuyer, Minister of Environment, Workplace Safety and Health. The winning cartoons are distributed throughout this report and are as follows:

Category	First	Second
Open	Brian Johnson	Dr. John Didyk
Grades 10-12	Farley Bird	
Grades 7-9	Shauna Carter	Harry Wong
Grades 4-6	Brent Coreau	Calvin Funk

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Environmental Chemicals/ Water and Waste

J.M. McKernan

The first meeting of the Environmental Chemicals/Water & Waste Committee was convened Monday, October 22, 1984. At that time, the Priorities document was discussed in the context of a range of proposed projects or issues that the Environmental Chemicals/ Water & Waste Committee could expect to develop perspectives upon. These latter (and their respective proponents) were:

1. 200,000 tonnes/year alumina reduction facility (Alcoa/ Manitoba).
2. 5,500,000 tonnes/year refuse-fired incinerator for downtown District Heating Scheme (Winnipeg/ Manitoba/Canada).
3. 1,300 MW Limestone Generating Station (Manitoba Hydro).
4. Cottage subdivision at Shoal Lake, Ontario (Shoal Lake Indian Band #40).
5. Siting and operation of Hazardous Wastes Handling Facility (Manitoba).
6. Federal/Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Agreement (Canada/Manitoba).
7. Aerial pesticide and herbicide use in Northern Manitoba (Winnipeg/Manitoba).

At the meeting (attended by the Chairman and 2 others) the concensus was that the most important projects/issues to speak to, in order of priority, were:

1. Federal/Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Agreement.
2. Aerial herbicide use in northern Manitoba.
3. District heat refuse-fired incinerator.
4. Hazardous waste handling facility.
5. Shoal Lake cottage development.

The proposed Alcoa facility was not seriously considered in view of the low likelihood of the project proceeding quickly, and the Limestone project was considered to be within the interests of the Energy and Impact Assessment Committees.

To address the first priority issue, the absence of a water quality monitoring program in Manitoba and recent negotiations with Canada regarding a bilateral, cost-shared agreement, the following has been undertaken:

1. Participated briefly on drafting of Manitoba Environmental Council submission by Dr. Malley to the Inquiry on Federal Water Policy (October 25).
2. Participation in annual provincial EMD/NGO consultation process, (November 6) relayed concerns to Minister and Deputy Minister and followed up with letter.
3. Submitted brief to Clean Environment Commission on Surface Water Quality Objectives (November 21-22).

Both the letter submitted to the Minister, the Honourable Gerard Lecuyer, and the brief submitted to the Clean Environment Commission, touched on the matter of "exotic" emissions from either a refuse-fired incinerator or a provincial hazardous wastes handling facility.

The Chairperson also assisted the Energy/Environmental Impact Committees in their submission of an intervention to the National Energy Board hearings November 5-16, 1984. The Chairperson was advised by Manitoba Hydro and their consultants that the participation of the Energy/Environmental Impact Committees was credible and helpful.

Other issues of interest to the Committee will be addressed in the remaining monthly meetings, the next meeting scheduled for December 3, 1984.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

The committee placed emphasis on the following objectives:

1. To promote increased environmental surveillance of chemical changes in the atmosphere, terrestrial and aquatic environments, through issue oriented monitoring (i.e. change in effort).
2. To promote increased understanding of chemical changes in the environment, by broadening the range of variables monitored to include variables of acute ecological influence which have previously not been routinely monitored (i.e. change in scope).

These objectives were approached in the following manner:

1. Submission to Clean Environment Commission i.e. Surface Water Quality Objectives.
2. Participation in provincial and federal Environment Department's Annual Consultation Programs.
3. Participation in Steering Committee meetings i.e. Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Minister's proposed conference on Toxic Wastes.
4. Submission to Inquiry on Federal Water Policy formulation.
5. Development of briefs to:
   - — Manitoba Minister of Environment i.e. information needs in permitting procedure regulating herbicide use in forestry.
   - — Canada Minister of Environment i.e. monitoring of aromatic hydrocarbons from automobile exhaust.

The Committee has experienced some successes this past year.

1. Help was given to achieve restoration of Manitoba government's water quality monitoring program, terminated April 1, 1984.
2. A steady dialogue with the provincial Minister was maintained. We have had four transmittals to date.
3. There has been preparation of useful briefs for provincial and federal Ministers.

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Wildlife

Ian M. Rollo

Since the beginning of the 1984-85 year the Committee has met monthly. The meetings are scheduled for the evening after Board meetings so that rural members attending those may stay over for the Committee meetings. Complaints from other rural members concerning lack of funds for reimbursement of travel expenses are valid and should be allowed by the Council.

At the initial meeting, discussion revolved around those areas which seemed to be both pertinent for the time and valid for Committee discussion. The final position identified four major areas; these are outlined below:

1. **Oil and Gas Exploration in Hudson Bay:** Currently, federal licensing permits exploration over a large area of Hudson Bay. Initial exploration is seismic but the terms permit actual exploratory drilling towards the end of the licensed period. While the licensing is a federal affair, the Committee feels that possible effects on wildlife, birds, fish and mammals, are of direct concern to Manitoba and to the Environmental Council. Feelers have already been put out and future contracts will involve Manitoba governmental agencies and those of other provinces where offshore exploratory and production drilling have already taken place.
2. **Deer Poaching:** The question of deer poaching in certain areas of the province has concerned the Committee for some time. This more so since rural members of the Committee have personal experience of the situation near their homes. A persistent problem, however, has been the lack of clear cut data, most reports being word-of-mouth, newspaper accounts and anecdotal. The publication of a Practicum from the University of Manitoba's Natural Resources Institute entitled "Analysis of the Illegal Harvest of White-Tailed Deer in Agro-Manitoba: Implications for Program Planning and Management" by Mr. Michael Bessey has enabled the Committee to address the problem armed with hard, factual, scientific data. This thesis will be used as basis for study and the possible writing of a brief on the subject.
3. **Parks Development:** The Committee's rapport with the Provincial Parks Department has always been good and it is felt that whatever suggestions and comments have come from us have been carefully considered. When possible, changes in draft plans of future benefit to wildlife in a park area have been incorporated.

   Currently, the first Background Report on the development in Hecla Island is being considered. The

Committee will have input into modification of this document, which, together with inputs from other individuals and organizations will result in the publication of the Draft Plan. It is expected this will be forthcoming in the Spring of '85. The Committee is also concerned about developments in other areas and these will be reported on at the Annual Meeting.

4. **Contact with Other Organizations:** During discussion it was felt that intercourse between like-minded organizations could be to their mutual advantage and that, in the case of the Committee, contact with other wildlife groups would be of considerable benefit. The Chairperson of the Manitoba Naturalists Society, Wildlife Committee (one of its more active) was contacted and found to be very sympathetic to the meeting of the two committees. This will be pursued. Additionally, should this venture prove profitable, other committees or even the full Council may wish to arrange for meetings with other recognized bodies outside Winnipeg.

At its last meeting there was brief discussion on the environmental impact of herbicide usage in forest management. After further consideration the Committee may suggest that the general topic of "Forest Management" could be appropriate for a forum to be mounted by Council.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Semi-Annual Council Meeting

Since its report at the semi-annual meeting, the Committee has proceeded along the lines outlined therein. No briefs have originated from these since the work is ongoing. The Chairperson would like to mention especially the help received from the Co-ordinator in making contacts and collecting information.

Two points deserve special mention; the first concerns the Committee's attention to deer poaching. The matter has been a source of concern for some time, but more recently as pointed out in Parkland's report, there has been a substantial increase in successful prosecutions and the setting of far stiffer sentences. In light of this, the Committee may wish to remove this item from active consideration.

The second point is currently newsworthy and concerns oil and gas exploration in Hudson Bay. Primarily a federal affair, the Province is concerned about potential ecological and environmental effects but appears at this time to be not too concerned about the effects of exploratory drilling. The Committee will likely take the longer term view and focus on data already available on potential harm from the installation and operation of commercial wells should such come about.

Finally, the Committee, with the benefit of expert advice from some of its members, revised its brief on trapping which was presented but not approved at last year's meeting.

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Energy

Barry Silver

The first meeting of the Energy Committee was convened on October 9, 1984. At that time, the priorities document was discussed and topics for investigation were chosen.

An intervention on Limestone Hydroelectric Development was presented at the National Energy Board (NEB) hearings concerning advancement of construction start dates. The submission stated that there were insufficient data to test environmental impacts and to determine mitigative costs and that the advancement would not allow an adequate time frame in which sufficient ecological studies could be carried out and utilized in the planning process.

The NEB was satisfied, however, that expected environmental impacts resulting from the construction projects would occur with or without the power export and associated advancement of the Limestone, Weeskwatem, and Conawapa hydroelectric stations. The Board stated that no incremental damage would result from the production of power or energy which Manitoba Hydro seeks to export.

A brief was submitted to the Minister at the semi-annual meeting requesting formal public hearings into the Limestone Project. The Minister replied that hearings were not necessary due to the NEB hearings, the formation of a Northern MLA's committee and, the Manitoba Environmental Assessment and Review Process formulation of an Environmental Impact Statement which will be public and will be publicly discussed.

Manitoba Hydro, asked by the Council, presented information on environmental concerns at the semi-annual meeting held November 30, 1984. These presentations were recorded and are being edited at this time.

Examination of nuclear waste disposal in Manitoba is continuing and a brief may be forthcoming for the next semi-annual meeting.

No developments have occured on the following topics: review of the Manitoba Hydro Act; taxation of power; conservation encouragement; and Exploration in Hudson Bay (this topic discussed by Wildlife Committee).

Information dealing with high-voltage transmission was presented at the semi-annual meeting. No committee action followed.

No briefs will be presented at the annual meeting.

A review of committee performance in 1984-85 resulted in agreement that there requires a focusing on topics. Due to the magnitude of the Limestone development no other topics were examined. Next year it is hoped that briefs will be presented at both the semi-annual and annual meetings. We hope to look at energy conservation, potential oil discoveries and their environmental impacts.

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Environmental Impact Assessment

Bruce Dexter

The Committee has been active, pursuing an array of concerns raised at the first Council meetings this fall.

We have been prioritizing an ambitious agenda of briefs for preparation over the next three months (see Project Status), and subsequently liaising with resource persons at federal, provincial and municipal levels as well as with other technical committees.

Membership

In this period we would like to expand our committee membership, as two of the technical support members of our committee will be out of the province on Research leave. With this in mind we would appreciate assistance from other technical committees as we research our briefs, and we have asked Professor Jean Macdonald of the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Manitoba to participate in our committee. Professor Macdonald has a longstanding interest in environmental and conservation concerns and has recently returned from British Columbia where she was working for the preservation of the South Moresby area of the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Status Reports

1. **Garrison:** We have been monitoring the progress of the Garrison Unit Diversion Commission, which has to make a final recommendation to the US Secretary of Interior by the year end. The Commission's Interim Report on Alternatives, issued earlier this month, was responsive to Canadian concerns, combining options that would limit or eliminate transfer to the Hudson Bay Basin for comparison with the Project Basecase. The commission met on Wednesday in Washington for further instructing of research staff, and we are awaiting Bob Clarkson's return to determine if our committee should prepare a brief for the Commission meetings in Minot in mid-December.
2. **Shoal Lake:** The original EIA was returned by FEARA for revision and has been resubmitted, with public hearings likely to take place early next year. If a brief is required it will be prepared in coordination with the Environmental Chemicals Technical Committee.
3. **District Heating Incinerator:** An Internal Environmental Impact Report has been presented to Winnipeg Hydro. No information has been made public since the project is still at the proposal stage. An information meeting has been scheduled by Hydro officials with a committee member in early December.
4. **Lake Dauphin and Edwards Creek:** Work is in progress, the committee member from Winnipegosis is providing background research which will probably culminate in a brief this spring.
5. **Limestone:** We advised the Energy Committee on testimony before the National Energy Board. An EIR is under preparation for June, after which we can report to appropriate Ministers, probably the first item on next fall's agenda.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

Briefs

1. Revision of the Safety and Health Committee's Minute Forms

Recommendation

The Manitoba Environmental Council recommends to the Minister that the Workplace Safety and Health Division be requested to review and revise its "Committee Minute Forms" (MG 3987 and MG 4328) in order to reduce the enormous waste of labour, paper, and reproduction costs to Manitoban employers, including government agencies.

Background

The presently used 8 1/2" x 14" forms basically consist of 5 columns. One of these columns, entitled "Ac-

tion Taken", which is only 2 5/8" wide, must be used to record 95% of the information relating to meeting proceedings. This often requires an inordinate number of pages, 2/3 (4 columns) of which generally remain unused.

Also, each form (MG 3428) has a 3 1/2" head and 2 1/2" bottom space, which must be filled in with repetitive information.

Due to the narrow reporting space and the repetitive information required, the typing of the form is extremely time consuming and each set of minutes requires an unnecessarily large number of pages.

As an example, one particular department of the City of Winnipeg produces monthly minutes with up to 17 pages. During a 12 month period, 148 pages of minutes have been typed, or an average of 12.3 pages per month. As the minutes must be distributed to all members of the Workplace Safety and Health Committee and posted in each workplace of the department, 75 copies have to be made. This amounts to 11,100 copies per year. At a cost of 5¢ per photocopy, the reproduction alone amounts to $555.00 per year. In addition, 9 hours per month of clerical work is required for typing, copying, collating, stapling and distribution, which amounts to approximately $1,000.00 in salaries per year. These are established for all workplaces within the department, as is now required under the Act.

Proposal

— Reduce form to 8 1/2" x 11" size.

— Revise first page (MG 3987) to contain general meeting information and only space for signatures of the co-chairpersons.

— Revise form MG 4328 by deleting repetitive information in top and bottom space and, most importantly, combine into one, the "Concern" and the "Action Taken" columns. As new heading "Concern (underline) and Action Taken" is suggested.

THIS SIMPLE AND LOGICAL REVISION WOULD REDUCE THE PAGE VOLUME OF COMMITTEE MINUTES BY 50% AND THEREBY SAVE VALUABLE HUMAN AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AS WELL AS UNNECESSARY EXPENDITURES.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

2. Budget Cuts to the Canadian Wildlife Service

"Because the cuts to the budget of the Department of the Environment announced by the Federal Government on November 9, 1984 will severely curtail or eliminate the programmes of research in wildlife toxicology, forestry/wildlife relations, endangered and threatened species as well as public interpretation programmes, with severe and permanent damage to the wildlife resources and public health of Manitoba and Canada, the Manitoba Environmental Council urges the Provincial Minister of the Environment and the Provincial Government to make vigorous, sustained and public efforts within its power to prevent the loss of these programmes."

Proposed by W.O. Pruitt, Jr.
Seconded by Ian Rollo

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Council Meeting

NOTE: It should be noted this is not a Committee Brief.

3. Brief: Trapping

Recommendations:

The Manitoba Environmental Council urges the Minister to recommend to the Minister of Natural Resources that his Department take steps to ensure that:

1. it be made an offence for trappers not to examine their traps and remove trapped animals at least once in every three consecutive days,
2. no licence for trapping be issued or renewed unless the applicant completes a Trappers Education Course in humane trapping to the satisfaction of the Instructor,
3. no person under the age of 16 years be allowed to trap unless under the supervision of an adult licenced trapper,
4. any trapper who fails to lift his or her traps immediately upon expiry of the season be subject to at least the forfeiture of his or her licence for a year or more.

Background

A recent article in the **Globe and Mail** concerning trapping and the growing European resistance to Canadian furs indicates the seriousness of the humane trapping issue. The Wildlife Committee feels these recommendations will alleviate some of the concerns. These recommendations are entirely consistent with the Wildlife Philosophy adopted by Council as its guide.

There are two forms of trapping:

1. wherein the animal is trapped for financial gain or recreation,
2. wherein the animal is trapped primarily because it has become a nuisance or health hazard.

The present brief applies to all forms of trapping and is intended to improve the regulation and management of trapping.

1. **Inspection cycle.** At present the time an animal might spend in a trap is not regulated. Therefore, the Wildlife Committee recommends that it be made an offence for trappers not to examine their set traps at least once in every three consecutive days.
2. **Licencing.** The Province has conducted a Trapper Education Programme over the last several years, and part of that programme has been concerned with humane trapping methods. Therefore, the Wildlife Committee recommends that no licence for a trapper be issued or renewed unless the applicant completes a Trappers Education Course in humane trapping to the satisfaction of the Instructor.
3. **Age.** The Wildlife Committee recommends that no person under the age of 16 years be allowed to trap unless under the supervision of an adult licenced trapper.
4. **Abandonment.** All traps should be lifted following the closing of the trapping season to prevent needless suffering to, and loss of, wildlife. Therefore, the Manitoba Environmental Council recommends that any trapper who fails to lift his or her traps immediately upon expiry of the season be subject to at least the forfeiture of his or her licence for a year or more.

Ian Rollo, Chair
Wildlife Committee

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

4. Conservation Farming in Manitoba: Ecological Adaptations of the "Soil at Risk" Report to Local Situations

Preamble

The Canadian Senate Committee for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry conducted hearings into agricultural soil management problems and needs across Canada. They produced the very important report "Soil at Risk" which warns of the deterioration of soil, water, and wildlife habitat. It urges governmental and private preventative actions; in particular it targets several key policies that require change.

Although agricultural soil problems in Manitoba have some unique features, the major causes are similar to the rest of the nation, especially Saskatchewan and Alberta. These are associated with excessive clearing, draining and cultivation, and season-long, continuous grazing, and overuse, or misuse of chemicals. The annual removal of vegetation and exposure of the soil to damaging wind and water events are causing a serious decline in capability to produce crops. This is especially true on fragile soils that are marginal, and even sub-marginal, for agriculture.

Wildlife habitat is being severely reduced and degraded by clearing, draining and intensive cultivation. Offsite damages accumulate in increased flooding, sedimentation, declining water tables and pollution.

The Senate report explains that the intensification of grain cropping is driven by economic conditions that force farmers to convert every available acre to cropland in order to meet short-term debt payments. This is in turn catalysed by certain provincial and federal policies that provide incentives for destructive land uses.

It is the intent of this paper to advise the Minister of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health of the opportunities for his actions and influence to provide economic incentives to Manitoba farmers to practise soil conservation through changes in key agricultural policies. This should alleviate or reverse the present trend in declining soil capability.

Recommendations

A — Private Farmlands

1. That assessment of private farmland taxes on unused native lands ("wasteland") be reduced to zero.

   — This recommendation should be combined with No. 2 for maximum acceptance and effect: —

2. That assessment rates for the three major land types (improved land, native pasture and "wasteland") be clearly shown on all tax bills;
3. That the Manitoba government use its influence to urge the Canadian Wheat Board to change delivery quota regulations so that unused lands may be claimed for quota if left in their natural state.
4. That the Manitoba government initiate locally adaptable programs of reduced, minimum and zero tillage demonstrations and research.

5. That the Manitoba Government institute trials to promote the use of legumes in crop rotations to replace cultivated summerfallow, in arid areas of the province, to provide green manure.
6. That the Manitoba Government steps up its effort to institute throughout the Provincial school system, an ecology-oriented curriculum, teaching the conservation of natural resources.

B — Ecological Farming

7. For the long-term, that the government of Manitoba institute a holistic program of research, development and education in ecological farming methods with the intention of increasing for farmers the options for soil and water conservation at a profit.

C — Crown Lands

8. That the provincial Crown-owned lands of Class 4 or higher agricultural capability only, be allowed to be sold into private agricultural use.

Background

The recommendations regarding private farmland policies and conservation education were presented nationally in the "Soils at Risk" report of the Canadian Senate Committee. Surveys of southwest Manitoba farmer's attitudes concerning land taxes showed a high rate of agreement (References 1 and 2) however, this may not apply where excess spring moisture is a frequent deterrent to crop seeding, such as the Dauphin-Ste. Rose area (Reference 3). Since the suggested tax revisions permit farmers full freedom of choice, they would not deter farm operations, nor would they require extensive changes in administration.

A holistic approach should be taken to achieve the goals. Programs of demonstration, education and information transfer are essential to acquire the desired changes. They are consistently very effective and therefore cost efficient.

The provision to claim quota delivery on unused lands such as wetlands, bush and unused prairie (Soils at Risk, Alberta Environment), would allow individual farmers a full range of options for using these lands, and provide for maintenance of important wildlife habitat and natural areas at no cost to landowners, nor will it have any impact on the orderly delivery of grain or the management of the system.

Legumes such as alfalfa, trefoil and sweet clover have long been used in crop rotations to amend soil degradation, add nitrogen and organic material, and improve soil structure. Time-tested methods of haying, plow-down, underseeding and others have recently been foresaken for intensive cropping systems that earn immediate income, usually to the detriment of long-term production potential. Some Manitoba farmers are proving the value of time tested methods in today's economy (Reference 4).

This history of farming fragile lands in Manitoba has been one of general misuse, neglect and degradation. It makes no sense for government to place restrictions on use of fragile Crown lands as long as the government owns the land, then sell them into private ownership and have no control. Submarginal lands (i.e., those of Class 5 capability or lower) must be protected and retained under Crown ownership for the alternate uses and the benefits they provide, including wildlife habitat (Reference 5).

The destruction of wildlife habitat is a serious problem in Manitoba as it is elsewhere. Over 50,000 ha of upland cover and 12,000 ha of wetlands are lost annually through bulldozing and drainage. The present arrangements for leased Crown lands recognize the need to preserve wildlife habitat and include regulations limiting the amount of land that can be converted to agricultural use, depending on the quality of the land resource. However, when such land is sold to farm operators, there are no limitations on land use and complete destruction of habitat is permitted, no matter what the land quality may be. Furthermore, both federal and provincial agricultural policies place tremendous economic pressure on farmers to maximize yields and to cultivate as much land as possible.

The present guidelines on the sale of crown lands includes the requirement that "the crown land must be agriculturally usable and generally have an agricultural capability of class 5 or better." However, class 5 lands have severe limitations that restrict their capability for production of perennial forage crops, without so-called improvements such as clearing, draining and fertilization. Even then the land is marginal for cropping and frequently subject to rapid soil degradation. This class 5 land should normally remain under control of the Crown.

Keeping the land under the crown better guarantees appropriate levels of habitat preservation and allows for quicker conversion out of agriculture should there be evidence of environmental degradation. This will also serve to preserve habitat on upland sites and prevent drainage of inappropriate areas.

Category Grades 7-9 — 1st Prize — Shauna Carter, Winnipeg, MB

References

1. Morgan, J.P. 1985. An analysis of landowner attitudes toward techniques of wetland preservation in the prairie pothole district of Manitoba. M.Sc. Practicum. Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba.
2. Milani, R. 1985. Landowner attitudes toward changes in government policies to encourage con-

servation farming. M.Sc. Thesis, Geography Dept., University of Manitoba.

3. Phillips, R. undated. Survey of landowner attitudes in the Dauphin Area. Unpublished M.S.
4. Emberly, K. updated. Preservation of top soil and soil fertility in agricultural and forest regions: Land use policy concerns are rising. Unpublished M.S.
5. Cowan, W. undated. Economic benefit of wildlife. Unpublished M.S.

NOTE: Copies of the above are available upon request from the Manitoba Environmental Council Office.

Dr. Wayne Cowan, Chairman,
Land Use Committee

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Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Response to Briefs — 1984/85

Basil M. Rotoff

As the "Past-Chairman Pro tem", it is again my duty to comment on the Minister's response to briefs submitted to him by Council in 1984/85. Under the present procedure, the Minister's responses are distributed to board members. It is up to the Committee Chairpersons to inform the membership of these responses. Consequently, this report will be confined to an assessment of the responses received and, as it were, to a cursory evaluation of our work.

A measure of esteem our Council enjoys with the Government is the care and detail taken in answering our briefs point-by- point, and the commitment to follow-up on the recommendations they propose. Moreover, it is by the quality of these replies (or, sometimes, the degree of defensiveness) that we can judge the effectiveness of our advisory work.

Nine briefs were presented to the Minister, of which eight received detailed consideration, and one, although done in all sincerity, addressed questions unrelated to the Council's terms of reference. Discounting the latter, two thirds of the issues raised were either being addressed by government, or were being considered for future action, or were held in abeyance for lack of funding because of financial restraints; one-third of the issues were either not addressed as a matter of policy or rejected because of outright disagreement.

A great deal can be drawn from these responses, be they positive or negative, and I recommend that, in order to insure continuity, follow-up and effectiveness, responses be monitored by Council in a manner more consistent than it was done in the past.

We were less successful with the two resolutions presented at the semi-annual meeting. The problem with the resolution format is that:

A. It doesn't permit a thorough exposition of the issues addressed and thus leads to conundrums and misdirected answers;

B. The issues may be presented on the basis of inadequate or obsolete data, and lack intellectual rigor, thereby making the resolutions vulnerable to attack or, at best, deflection.

I would like to remind Council that we rejected the resolution format seven years ago for these very reasons; I therefore recommend that it be avoided at all costs.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that the policy on briefs adopted by Council in the previous year seems to bear fruit: the quality and effectiveness of our briefs has improved considerably and, applying the above mentioned criteria, appears to be the best in years.

The nine briefs presented with recommendations can be found in the Annual Report #12 and are listed as follows:

1. Nuclear Energy in Canada
2. Transportation Subsidy for Schools
3. Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP)
4. Federal Compliance with the Environmental Assessment and Review Process
5. The Use of Herbicides in Forestry
6. Use of Insecticides to Control Western Equine Encephalitis
7. Recycling of Aluminum Containers
8. Water Quality Monitoring
9. Selling of Crown Lands

* * *

Position Papers

1. Presentation to the Clean Environment Commission Hearings on the Proposed Treatment of the Souris River with Abate for the Control of Blackfly Larvae

The Manitoba Environmental Council (MEC) welcomes the opportunity to address the Clean Environment Commission on this issue. The MEC is an organization consisting of about 100 Manitoba citizens. It advises the provincial Minister of the Environment on environmental issues that concern Manitobans and it works to keep the public informed on environmental issues. The MEC has seven technical committees which deal with a broad range of environmental issues. One of these committees, the

Environmental Chemicals/Water and Waste Committee, on whose behalf I am presenting this brief, consists of 36 members, several of whom have expertise in entomology, aquatic biology and pesticide chemistry.

While we recognize that the addition of a toxic agent to a freshwater body is warranted under certain circumstances, we believe that such a measure should be taken only after certain questions regarding necessity, effectiveness and possible impacts have been addressed satisfactorily. Some questions that the committee believes should be raised when addition of a toxicant to any water body under similar circumstances is being considered are:

1. ***Why is treatment being considered?***
   Has it clearly been shown that blackflies cause serious discomfort to humans and that blackflies are responsible for deaths and injury to livestock and poultry in this area? Suspected cases of deaths or injury should be confirmed by qualified personnel since biting flies other than black flies could be partially responsible for some of the problems. The extent of economic loss due to the adverse effects on livestock should be clearly established. For example, prior to the treatment of the Athabasca River in Alberta in 1974 and 1975, surveys of farmers and preliminary field studies indicated that adult blackflies were responsible for reduction in milk yield, loss in rate of weight gain and death in livestock in the area of the Athabasca River which in about a ten year period resulted in an estimated loss of over half a million dollars.[1]
2. Is a ***monitoring program*** in place to determine the following:
   a) Are numbers of blackfly larvae of the problem species high enough to warrant treatment? Densities may vary from year to year depending on factors such as temperature. Alberta and Saskatchewan both follow guidelines regarding numbers of nuisance blackfly larvae that must be present before treatments are made, a measure which we believe should also be followed in Manitoba.
   b) Where are the largest populations of blackfly larvae located? Is the Souris River the sole source of the problem species?
   c) What is the best time to treat? Sensitivity of blackflies depends on stage of development. The pupal stage is very tolerant to pesticides and if the insecticide is applied at the wrong time, application will have virtually no effect on reducing blackfly populations.
   d) Will concentrations of the insecticide be measured at the point of application and at various downstream locations? How far downstream is the insecticide and its breakdown products expected to be carried?
   e) How far downstream is an effect on blackflies and other animals expected to occur? And for how long is this effect expected to persist? Is it possible that the blackfly problem will merely be displaced? Insecticides, if not lethal, may irritate insects causing them to dislodge and be swept downstream with the current. In treatments on the Athabasca River with methoxychlor at 300 ppb, blackfly larvae, other insects and young fish were found in greatly increased numbers 400 km downstream from the application site.[1] Effects over such a distance would not be expected to occur here because of the nature of the pesticide used and the hydrological conditions, nevertheless effects could occur many miles downstream of treatment.
   f) How will the effectiveness of the treatment be determined? Will scientifically controlled studies be conducted to establish that numbers are reduced due to treatment? Abundance of blackfly larvae could change due to a number of factors completely unrelated to treatment.
3. ***Will the insecticide*** or its breakdown products ***contaminate drinking water*** of humans or livestock downstream?
4. ***What are the expected effects on non-target organisms?***
   Abate is a non-selective insecticide i.e. it does not kill only blackfly larvae. It may kill beneficial animals that fish feed on and the natural predators that feed on blackfly larvae.[2] Disruption of the normal balancing factors in the river could result in the blackfly problem becoming worse in the long term, rather than better. Effects on fish and other vertebrates should also be considered.
5. ***Are alternate methods of protection feasible?***
   Have people been sufficiently informed about the benefits of insect repellants and protective clothing? Have direct applications of insecticides, self-administered dusters or the use of shelters for cattle been considered?
6. ***Have alternate methods of treatment been considered?***
   New insecticides which are more selective against blackfly larvae e.g. *Bacillus thuringiensis*, may be a more acceptable alternative than Abate.

In the absence of sufficient information to answer many of the above questions, the Environmental Chemicals/Water and Waste Committee cannot take a position at this time in favor of or in opposition to the proposed application. It therefore recommends that this treatment not be carried out until the necessity for treatment is documented, an effective monitor-

ing program is set up and potential negative consequences of treatment are evaluated.

Presented by Margaret Friesen, Environmental Chemicals/ Water and Waste Committee, June 14, 1984, Hartney, Manitoba.

References:

1. Hauge, W.O. and G.C.R. Croome (ed.) 1980. Control of Black Flies in the Athabasca River. Technical Report. Alberta Environment.
2. United States Department of the Interior. Handbook of acute toxicity of chemicals to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Fish and Wildlife Service/Resource Publication 137.

2. Presentation to the Inquiry on Federal Water Policy Regarding Water Issues in Manitoba

Structure and Function of the Manitoba Environmental Council

The Manitoba Environmental Council was set up under the Clean Environment Act of 1972 as an advisory body to the provincial Minister responsible for environment. It identifies, collects, and presents information on environmental problems, discusses environmental priorities and transmits the results to the Minister and to the public. It consists of up to 100 members appointed by the Minister. Up to 50 organizations are each represented by one member. The other fifty or more members are private citizens. Each member functions in a volunteer capacity. The executive structure and names of member organizations and individuals are given in Annual Report 11:1983.

The Council enjoys a position between government and the public sector. On the one hand, it has the advantages of government funding, two full-time staff, office space in government premises and direct channels of communication with the Minister and with government departments and branches. On the other hand, it participates in the ENGO Network in Canada, communicates with its member organizations and is self-directing in its choice of topics for study and activity and the positions developed on issues.

Water Issues and the Council

Since its inception, the Council has given considerable priority to water issues in the province. One of the seven Technical Committees is the Water and Waste Committee. Other Technical Committees as well — Environmental Chemicals, Energy, Wildlife, Environmental Impact Assessment — have dealt heavily with water. The Chairpersons representing the eight regions of Manitoba frequently bring regional water concerns to the Council as a whole.

Water quality and quantity have been a constant concern (1). More recently, the possible cottage developments on Shoal Lake, the source of Winnipeg's drinking water, are being carefully watched. Council has urged that Red River water quality be improved (2) and that sewage disposal into Manitoban waters be reduced (3). The quantity problem of Red River flooding was the topic of a half day public forum held by the Council in December, 1979 (proceedings in preparation). Quality and quantity are inseparably involved in Council's opposition to the aspects of the Garrison Diversion Unit which would allow Missouri Drainage Basin water to enter Canada (4).

It is well-recognized by Council that water issues cannot be viewed in isolation. The close association between land use and water was recognized in the brief on Provincial Land Use Policies (5) and in recommendations on the administration, allocation and control of water and land resources in Manitoba (6). The possible detrimental effects of agricultural activities and hazardous waste disposal on groundwater quality are treated in a brief on ground water (7). The link between the release of wastes to the atmosphere and possible deterioration of aquatic habitats was recognized in a brief on LRTAP (8) and in a brief to the Clean Environment Commission on a smelter licence (9). Concerns about the impacts of energy production on water systems were dealt with in publications on the Churchill-Nelson River Diversion (10, 11).

While maintaining positions basically protective of the environment, the Council cannot be said to be anti-development. Briefs urge that develpment proceed from an environmentally-informed base, proceed with the minimum environmental disturbance possible and with adequate environmental monitoring before, during and following the development. (12). Briefs from the Council repeatedly urge full disclosure of environmental impact information to the public and a significant role for the public in guiding development. The Council applauds the provincial government in those cases where public hearings are part and parcel of development or environmental policies, such as in the Hazardous Waste program in Manitoba.

To indicate to the Inquiry some of the concerns to be addressed by the Council in the future, I draw on the results of a priorities setting meeting held in August, 1984. The following were identified without specific ranking:

— wetland drainage
— review of major hydroelectric development plans in the province
— environmental effects of Hudson Bay oil and gas exploration
— Dauphin Lake watershed effects on the lake (siltation, agricultural chemicals)
— developments along Shoal Lake shore for impacts on Winnipeg water supply
— sewage treatment facilities in some Manitoban cities outside Winnipeg

Needs for Canadian Water Policy

Water in Manitoba, particularly in the North, is viewed as a resource, as a raw material waiting to be put to use. In practice, often ignored is the fact that water is already "in use", performing hydrological, climatological and ecological functions. For example, in the Churchill-Nelson River Diversion, considerable attention has been given to the impacts of raising water levels in Southern Indian Lake (13) and of increased Nelson River flows while virtually none has been given to the dewatering of the Churchill River estuary or the effects of changed water regimes on Hudson Bay. This is in spite of the strong suggestion that altered freshwater flow into coastal areas may adversely affect productivity (14, 15). R.W. Newbury, hydrologist, formerly of the University of Manitoba describes the hydraulic functions of rivers, such as the Nelson River, as they are affected by hydro development. "Under natural conditions, the potential energy of the river was expended by the fluvial processes which carve and transport sediment from the myriad of channels that comprise a river system . . . In the short span of our society in North America, we have observed only a slow rate of change of river characteristics as they react to residual crustal movements of the ice ages. We must now anticipate and seek to avoid unstable and rapidly changing characteristics as rivers react to the manipulations of man in securing hydroelectric power . . . For a net gain in power generation of 423 Mw at the Nelson River plants, 4252 Mw of energy were shifted in an environment established following deglaciation of the region 7000 years ago . . . For a few centuries, the rate of change and the instability caused by such major, uncontrollable shifts in hydraulic energy make this environment inhospitable to man . . . River environments inherited by this society in North America are limited in supply and will continue to diminish until hydroelectric and other hydraulic projects are designed to minimize instability and our society has developed a sense of survival in an ancient inherited landscape" (16). Our technological and engineering abilities of today permit modifications to the environment of enormous scale, the effects of which are usually beyond our ability to predict accurately and certainly are beyond our will to know before we embark on the project. Each project becomes an experiment in ecosystem response. As a scientist, I feel this is an imprudent way for our society to continue.

It is essential that more effort be made to predict environmental impacts of proposed projects so that more complete cost-benefit analysis can take place in the planning stage and so that various alternatives can be intelligently weighed. This requires at least two major advances: 1. a fuller understanding of the hydrological, climatological and ecological functioning of unperturbed water systems and of their potential responses to perturbations. More study is required of systems in various states of manipulation. 2. development of more effective "tools" for environmental impact assessment and of higher standards for E.I.A. More funds must be diverted for these purposes rather than fewer as has been the rule the past decade.

It is perhaps unfortunate that as natural scientists seek to communicate their results to politicians and the public, that matters have been expressed in as simple and understandable terms as possible. This may have raised the expectations of many that the natural world is readily understandable and indeed largely understood. This could not be farther from the truth. Many millions of dollars have been spent to find the cause of one disease in one species — cancer in humans. Yet the answer is elusive. Environmental impact assessors given some thousands of dollars are expected to predict the responses of ecosystems to major perturbations. In summary, for Canada to benefit for more than a brief instant in time from her rich heritage of water, she must strive to match her knowledge of the impacts of her actions to her capacity to act.

References:

1. MEC Brief:
   Selkirk Water Supply,
   Annual Report No. 8, 1980, p 43-44.
2. MEC Brief:
   Red River Water Quality,
   Annual Report No. 10, 1982, p 43.
3. MEC Brief:
   Sewage Disposal in Manitoba Waters
   Annual Report No. 10, 1982, p 43-44.
4. MEC Brief:
   Re Garrison Diversion Publication
   Annual Report No. 8, 1980, p 44-45.
5. MEC Brief:
   Provincial Land Use Policies,
   Annual Report No. 11, 1983, p 28-29.
6. MEC Brief:
   The Administration, Allocation, and Control of Water and Land Resources in Manitoba
   Annual Report, No. 8, 1980, p 35-40
7. MEC Brief:
   Monitoring Ground Water in Manitoba for Environmental Contaminants.
   Annual Report 11, 1983, p 21-22.
8. MEC Brief:
   Long-Range Air Pollutants
   Annual Report 10, 1982, p 26-27.
9. MEC Brief:
   Smelter Licensing for Inco Metals Co.
   Annual Report 10, 1982, p 27-30.

10. MEC Topics:
Southern Indian Lake and Hydro Development Topics 3, 1984, 73 pp

11. MEC Resolutions:
Council Resolutions
Annual Report 1, 1973, p 2.

12. MEC Briefs:
Environmental Impact Assessment of Major Economic Projects in Manitoba.
Annual Report 10, 1982, p 24.
Environment Information Re: Aluminum Reduction Plant
Annual Report 10, 1982, p 24-25.
Public Release of Impact Assessments on Proposed Alcan Smelter
Annual Report 10, 1982, p 25.

13. Hecky, R.E., R.W. Newbury, K. Patalas, and D.M. Rosenberg. 1984. Environmental impact prediction and assessment: the Southern Indian Lake experience. Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 41: 720-732.

14. Neu, H.J.A. 1982 Man-made storage of water resources — A liability to the ocean environment? Part 1. Mar. Poll. Bull. 13: 7-12.

15. Neu, H.J.A. 1982 Man-made storage of water resources — A liability to the ocean environment? Part II. Mar. Poll. Bull. 13: 44-47.

16. Newbury, R.W. 1980. Effects of hydro development on rivers. MEC Annual Report 8, p 98-100.

Presented by Dr. Diane Malley, October 24, 1984, Winnipeg.

3. Presentation to the National Energy Board Hearings in the Matter of Manitoba Hydro's Application for the Advancement of Construction of the Limestone Generating Station

The Manitoba Environmental Council is a group of concerned and knowledgeable citizens formed under Section 2(3) of the Clean Environment Act, with all members volunteering their time. Members of the Council are appointed by the Minister of Environment Workplace Safety & Health, Honourable Gerard Lecuyer, and are drawn from various sectors of the Province of Manitoba, both rural and urban. The Council has 100 members — its total mandated number. Members of the Council are drawn from a wide variety of disciplines and occupations and include professors, scientists, teachers, engineers, nurses, farmers, business people, inter alia.

In addition to advising and assisting the Minister responsible for the environment, the Council has a public role. Under the auspices of the public role the Council has conducted seminars on many topics ranging from population, to nuclear energy, to rural land use. It has published studies on a number of topics and it has presented briefs to enquiries, commissions, and hearings both in Canada and the United States.

The Energy Committee concerns itself with all relevant developments in the fields of solar, hydro, conventional thermal, nuclear and other energy and power sources transmitted and used.

Bio-physical environmental matters concerning Manitoba Hydro are not new to the Council. In an intervention approved by the Council and presented in 1976, eight years ago, the Environmental Council stated that Hydro developments must be accompanied by an adequate scientifically sound environmental impact assessment. In 1982, a recommendation approved by the Council, urged the Manitoba Government to make arrangements for the hydroelectric planning process to be opened up to public scrutiny and input from the earliest stages. Such scrutiny should include public interest groups and individuals.

Position

The MEC Energy committee does not oppose the application, National Energy Board File #1923-4/M7-7, per se. Rather, the intervenor recognizes that the National Energy Board (NEB) has on other occasions reviewed and acknowledged that comprehensive protection of the environment is necessary. In this light, the intervenor considers that the advancement of power and energy sales is not just and reasonable. Predevelopment bio-physical studies, the incorporation of environmentally-based construction modifications, and monitoring and mitigation costs seem not to be included in this application. This seems to be due to the lack of baseline data which will be studied later by the company during the construction phase and the fact that Manitoba Environmental Assessment and Review Agency (MEARA) hearings have not concluded.

Baseline information is required for normal environmental impact assessments. This baseline information is necessary in determining a standard against which changes are measured. These studies are not included in the modified EIS. Only monitoring and mitigation activities are considered under this EIS. Therefore, this does not preclude that stricter guidelines may be established. As these guidelines have not been established and until such a time as they are, no estimate can be made of these additional costs associated with meeting these guidelines. If there has been an estimate, they are not apparent in a review of Appendix "Q", Manitoba Cost Recovery Analysis and Appendix "Z", Benefit Cost Analysis of the proposed sale.

Manitoba Hydro has stated that studies have been done in this area. The NFA Arbitration Claim #18 clearly shows 15 studies done on the Nelson River. Ten of these studies pertain to trout and sturgeon, two limnological studies were done prior to 1976 when the

diversion took place, one study examined mercury levels in lakes for the years 1970-1979. These studies do not constitute sufficient information by which Manitoba Hydro can predict changes in the environment early enough to be included in the planning of construction. If final approval to the modified EIS occurs in May or June of 1985, and 2 or 3 years of research then follows, the construction will be at an advanced stage and no construction related modification would be possible. In light of Manitoba Hydro's environmental history in the North, one would have anticipated that studies would have occurred even after the arrest of construction in 1978. There does not seem to be evidence of any such research in the literature in the application. Advancement of construction reduces the time in which sufficient ecological studies can be carried out and utilized in the planning process.

Submitted by Barry Silver, Chairman
Energy Committee, November 15, 1984, Winnipeg.

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Presented at November 30, 1984 Semi-Annual Council Meeting

4. Presentation to the Clean Environment Commission, Regarding Surface Water Quality Objectives

The Manitoba Environmental Council, through its Environmental Chemicals/Water and Waste Committees, appreciates this opportunity to advise the Commission of its perspectives on the concept of regulation effluent discharges by reference to Surface Water Quality Objectives (SWQO). We endorse the concept, and the implicit priority being placed by the Province on protective management of our water resources. These proceedings, and the activities of the Inquiry on Federal Water Policy, which also recently held hearings in Winnipeg, clearly illustrate the importance of water in an increasing resource-scarce world. In the Council's view, water quality maintenance and water use may become major issues for Manitoba in Federal/Provincial and Canadian/American relations in the next decade.

Our consideration of recent environmental effects and issues in Manitoba suggests, however, that the delivery of the SWQO concept will require attention to various issues or shortcomings now present. I will discuss these briefly, concluding with actions or perspectives we recommend to the Commission's consideration.

1. ***Comprehensiveness***
   There are several major industrial projects likely to occur in Manitoba within the next half-decade. These projects will result in atmospheric emissions of various compounds which at present are not regulated by promulgated ambient air guidelines. Many of these compounds are susceptible to photodegradation and other decay processes. However, the decomposition products of many of these compounds and/or the original precursor compounds will accumulate (admittedly, in very low concentrations) in aquatic systems draining the watershed within which emissions will occur.

   The provincial government bears the responsibility for determining appropriate ambient air guidelines. They are presently engaged in co-operative dialogue with the federal counterparts, seeking consensus on interim guidelines for such groups of compounds as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's), dibenzo dioxins, dibenzofurans, phthalate esters, etc.

   Our committee considers it useful that the Province simultaneously explore interim or tentative guidelines for concentrations of these same groups of compounds in aquatic systems, as part of a more comprehensive approach to the management of "exotic chemicals" increasingly present in our natural environment.

   We believe that either the most potentially hazardous, or the most representative of such groups of compounds should receive specific attention. We consider that benz(a)pyrene,2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin, 2,3, 7,8-tetrachlorodibenzofuran, and di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate are representatives of the more hazardous members of the PAH's, dioxins, furans and phthalate esters, respectively, and should receive detailed study. The penultimate objective should be tentative guidelines for such 'indicator' compounds in waters, bearing in mind principal uses of the waterbody in question, to be discussed and refined in advance of start-up of the industries which would emit them. At such time, the Commission would presumably hold hearings on the matter of developing discharge and emissions Orders at which the tentative guidelines could be re-evaluated, refined and perhaps promulgated as objectives. In addition, this exercise should also consider hazardous degradation products of certain of these compounds. For example, nitrated PAH's are highly mutagenic, readily created in air on exposure to sunlight, and will accumulate in aqueous systems. They are a new class of compounds of toxicological concern, and will become highly topical in the public consciousness in the balance of this decade.

2. ***Analytical Capability***
   Surveillance of toxicological compounds in, and monitoring the health of, aquatic systems is an increasingly sophisticated challenge, requiring increasingly sophisticated analytical capabilities in monitoring agencies.

"Just think — once this was nothing but raw wilderness!"

Category Grades 7-9 — 2nd Prize — Harry Wong, Rivers, MB

The Province requires a substantial improvement in its analytical infrastructure. It presently lacks the gas chromatography hardware and sensors to undertake routine analyses for PAH's, and lacks completely the high pressure liquid chromatograph required to assist identification and quantification of such important compounds.

If the Province lacks the very equipment needed to analyze compounds already of regulatory interest to the Commission (e.g. certain dioxins), then the ability of monitoring to facilitate compliance with certain Commission orders may be compromised.

The "virtually safe dose" for total dioxins per litre has been set at 0.04 **picograms**/litre (Health and Welfare/Environment Canada 1983), illustrating the analytical precision that will be required in the near future. We are presently unaware of any analytical capability in the Province attempting quantitation at the low **nanogram** level of concentration.

3. ***Monitoring***
Delivery of the SWQO concept to the benefit of Manitoba's citizens presumes the existence of a fundamental, long-term committment to water quality monitoring in this Province. There has recently been considerable dialogue with Canada on the nature, purpose, scope and funding of a new Agreement covering a cost-shared monitoring program. Nonetheless, the fundamental commitment of the Province to aquatic monitoring, after its termination of the former provincial program, requires re-affirmation in a visible, financial way, irrespective of the outcome of such negotation. This fundamental and substantial commitment must supercede the short-term political objectives inherent in a cost-shared approach to monitoring. This is especially our belief, in view of the recent federal decimation and/or wholesale reduction of monitoring and research programs oriented towards environmental protection.

We are not privy to the negotiations between Canada and Manitoba on the possible new, cost-shared monitoring program. We therefore seek assurance from the Commission that such negotiations recognize and incorporate the monitoring approach embodied in the Manitoba SWQO. We seek further assurance from the Commission that it will make pronouncements to the Province on the need for a fundamental, unilateral commitment to long-term monitoring (for both groups of compounds treated in the objectives and those not yet contemplated therein) as a major factor ensuring the delivery of the SWQO concept.

In closing, we commend the Environmental Management Division, and specifically Mr. Williamson, for addressing the challenge inherent in water resource management by developing these refined objectives. We hope they will be adopted, and that they serve as a basis in the future for an expanded conceptual framework for water quality monitoring. We urge classification of the remaining watersheds in the Province.

Presented by Mike McKernan,
Environmental Chemicals/Water and
Waste Committee,
November 20, 1984, Winnipeg.

Guest Speaker Presentations

1. **Atmospheric Emission Guidelines/Air Pollution Control Philosophy Presented by Mr. Dave Bezak, Head, Air Standard and Studies Section, Department of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health.**

The Environmental Management Division has formulated atmospheric emission guidelines. These guidelines were developed based on a containment policy adopted by the Division circa 1975.

The guidelines are the main basis on which the Division derives its recommendations to the Clean Environment Commission. They are also used as guides for industries wishing to undertake expansion or new construction within the Province. However, limitations with the broadness and scope of these guidelines have been encountered.

Recommendations:

1. The Department approve the Environmental Management Division's proposed approach and method for incorporating an atmospheric emission control philosophy into a guideline during its development.
2. The Division undertake a review and development of atmospheric emission guidelines based on industry-specific types of operations.

Justification:

1. The existing emission guidelines refer to only three types of emissions: visible opacity, particulate levels and odours. Many other types of emissions are now of concern and require attention.
2. The current guidelines were developed many years ago. The specific limits may no longer be adequate for environmental protection nor reflective of today's practicable controls.
3. The lack of scientific supporting documentation for the guidelines makes them difficult to defend at public hearings.

4. There is no differentiation of emissions from different industry types.

For further information, please contact Mr. Bezak at Environmental Management Division, Bldg. 2, 139 Tuxedo Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 0H6.

Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting.

2. Manitoba Heritage Marsh Program Presented by Dr. Robert E. Jones, Manitoba Heritage Marsh Program

In April, 1985, the Minister of Natural Resources, the President of the Manitoba Naturalists Society, the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and Ducks Unlimited Canada signed the Heritage Marsh Agreement. This will have major impact initially on five large marsh complexes in Manitoba. Additional marshes are presently being examined for inclusion in this program.

The need for marsh protection is clear. Over the last 50 years wetland habitats have steadily decreased due in part to the large drainage programs which have converted this land to agricultural production. Cultivation of former marsh lands almost down to the water edge as is the case in Netley-Libau Marsh severely reduces waterfowl habitat and the shoreline functions of these marshes. Not all drainage is detrimental. Temporary drainage of marshes can increase marsh productivity by recycling nutrients and allowing for reinvasion of certain marsh plant species. Also over the past decades there has been considerable decrease in waterfowl populations although this is not entirely due to the loss of wetlands. Loss of wetlands and of woodlands has created land use problems such as soil erosion, salination, and water shortage.

Marshes have several important uses. Netley-Libau and Delta Marshes, for example, contain numerous shooting lodges used by hunters during the waterfowl season. Some of our marshes are being used intensively as interpretive nature education facilities. Oak Hammock, immediately north of Winnipeg, is a prime example of this use. Considerable funds have recently been spent there improving the interpretive facilities and these will open very shortly. Although, the interpretive facilities are not an integral part of the Heritage Marsh Program, Oak Hammock is one of the marshes in the Agreement. We need our large marshes to help children understand the values of wetlands as habitats which must be preserved.

The concept behind the Heritage Marsh Program is to secure agreement to preserve our wetlands for the future, not only between the major conservation organizations, but also the land users, the farmers and the trappers who rely on these wetlands to produce a portion of their income. Five marshes are included in the recently-signed Agreement — Grant's Lake, Oak Hammock, Proven Lake, Saskram Marsh and Summerberry Marshes. All of these are excellent representatives of marsh, are 100% crown-owned and fit the criteria for the Manitoba Heritage Marsh Program very nicely. In addition, there are ten other marshes; Delta Marsh, Oak Plum Lake, Netley-Libau Marsh, Dennis Lake, Whitewater Lake, Big Grass Marsh, the Turtle River Marshes, Marshy Point, Narcisse W.M.L., and Lidcliffe Marshes which are being considered for inclusion and where attempts are being made to arrive at land use solutions.

The four original signers of the agreement are indicated above. Eventually, a number of other organizations may take part — the Canadian Wildlife Service, Manitoba Wildlife Foundation, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Canadian Wildlife Federation, Canadian Nature Federation and the Canadian National Sportsman Show. Wildlife Habitat Canada may also be a major participant.

Numerous benefits are expected from this program. The educational program at Oak Hammock and some of the other marshes is a major benefit. Production of waterfowl is expected to increase. Geese and other birds such as the black-crowned night heron will benefit. Muskrats and other fur bearers will also be enhanced with increase in general environmental quality. The fishing resources including commercial fishing are also an important consideration. Flood control is a significant function of marshes since marshes contain waters which could otherwise flood human habitations. The recreational value of hunting is also important. The aesthetic value of marshes is noteable as is the possibility for nature photography and canoeing. The program will assist trappers to make a living by increasing the number of muskrats and other fur bearers per acre. In this way, native people also will be assisted in making their livelihood.

Agriculture is an important consideration in the Heritage Marsh Program, which is designed to work with agriculturists in solving some of the mutual problems. In some cases, marshes can be enhanced by temporarily using them for cattle grazing or hay production. An important conflict between agriculture and waterfowl production is that the ducks from large marsh developments damage crops and thus cause economic loss to farmers. The Heritage Marsh Program contains measures which will address the problem of crop depreciation.

The cooperative commitments made under the Heritage Marsh Agreement include the following: Ducks Unlimited has agreed to develop proposals resulting from biological and engineering investigations. This includes capital works and the maintenance, operation and management of these projects. Some of these major projects will be cost-shared with the Government of Manitoba. Ducks Unlimited will develop capital works for crop damage prevention, where needed and may contribute to land

acquisition when necessary to deal with crop damage prevention. They will also secure individual agreements with landowners. The Manitoba Wildlife Federation has agreed to purchase patented land where required and to pay taxes on this land acquired through their Habitat Trust Program. The Manitoba Naturalists Society has agreed to contribute to purchase patented land where necessary. The Government of Manitoba has agreed to dedicate 208,000 acres of crown land and a possible further 200,000 acres of wetlands to the Agreement and to operate the waterfowl crop damage prevention programs. All groups will participate on management committees. The master agreement is for ten years. Public involvement is important — local land owners, rural municipalities, local government districts, planning districts, conservation districts, Indian Bands, special interest groups will be involved on a project basis. The cooperative result will be the preservation of Manitoba's large marshes for the future.

Biographical Sketch

Since 1974, Dr. Jones has worked for the Manitoba Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Branch as Wetlands Habitat Specialist and Delta Marsh Manager. Prior to that time he was associated with the Delta Waterfowl Research Station and the University of Delaware. Dr. Jones completed his Bachelors and Masters degrees at the University of Idaho. His Doctorate was completed in Zoology at Oklahoma State University where he compared the habitats of the greater and lesser prairie chickens. Dr. Jones has been appointed as secretary to the Manitoba Heritage Marsh Advisory Committee. He also serves as wildlife representative on the Summerberry Marsh Advisory Committee. He is a member of the Manitoba Naturalists and serves on the executive of the Portage Natural History Group. He is District Commissioner with Scouts Canada for Portage la Prairie.

Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting.

Category Grades 4-6 — 1st Prize — Brent Coreau, Winnipeg, MB

Publications

Gunter A. Schoch

I am pleased to report that the Publications Committee had an extremely productive year. A total of four publications have been printed and distributed since the last Annual Meeting. This was only possible through the direct involvement of the committee members in the publication process, including layout, editing and proofreading, which, historically, have been responsibilities of the Executive Secretary. Approximately 150 hours of work have been contributed by these volunteers during the past 12 months, in order to accomplish the printing of these manuscripts.

The first of these publications, entitled "TOPICS 2 — Wildlife Designation of Manitoba Crown Lands: Problems and Conflicts" was published on June 18th, 1984. Numerous additional requests for copies of this publication were received, which required the printing of a smaller second edition in October, 1984.

Our most ambitious project was the second publication, known as "TOPICS 3 — Southern Indian Lake and Hydro Development". This richly illustrated booklet took more than half a year to prepare and was finally published on December 3rd, 1984.

The third publication, entitled "TOPICS 4 — Survey of Environmental Monitoring Programs in Manitoba" was in preparation for over a year and came off the press on January 3rd, 1985. The Publications Committee thankfully acknowledges the extensive involvement of Dr. Diane Malley in the layout and editing process during the as many as seven wordprocessing runs of this manuscript.

Our final effort was the preparation of "ANNUAL REPORT 12" for 1983/84. While work on this project began already in June, 1984, the printing was not completed until April 4th, 1985. Unreasonable delays were experienced in the typesetting process, as our vastly improved specifications were not accepted by the Queen's Printer. However, the final product still turned out to be an improvement over the previous annual report.

For the new fiscal year, at least three manuscripts are partially completed and are presently being reviewed by their authors. These include:

— "Evolution of Legislation Affecting Wildlife", which was authored by a 1982 STEP Student under Dr. J. Nickels' supervision.

— "Annotated Bibliography of Fluoride Pollution", also produced by a 1982 STEP Student and referred back to the Environmental Chemicals Committee for revisions.

— "Sources of Groundwater Contamination in Manitoba". This manuscript was prepared by a 1984 STEP Student, who is expected to be re-employed this year to complete this project.

These three manuscripts, as well as the preparation of Annual Report 13, will be the first projects for the new Chairperson of the Publications Committee, since this is my last official function in this capacity. It has truly been a pleasure and privilege for me to serve as Chairman and Editor for the past three years and as member of Council for the past eight years. It has been a unique experience to meet and work with so many people, dedicated to the protection of our environment. I know that I will miss the meetings and fellowship which have brought us closer together in the common cause.

However, as I have embarked on a major personal project, that has become a high priority for me, the time has come to step aside for someone with perhaps new ideas and a new approach to Council's publications. I still believe that publications are a most important aspect of Council's operation and I can only hope that they will continue to receive the attention and funding they have been provided with in the past. After all, they are the show window of Council's activities, bringing the message across to the citizens, whom we serve.

In parting, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation foremost to the members of the Publications Committee, namely Miss Yong-Cha Cho, Professor Dore, Mr. Tim Fultz and Mrs. Gwen Parker for having always been there when needed during the past three years, to the Board of Directors for its continuous support, and especially to the Chairman of Council for his understanding and encouragement. It certainly has been an unforgettable experience for me and I wish you continuous success in the years to come.

* * *

Presented at May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Publications List

The following is a list of MEC publications, several of which are now out of print but available in xeroxed copy from the Council Office.

Annual Reports

1: 1973 (32pp)
2: 1974 (72pp)
3: 1975 (54pp)
4: 1976 (79pp)
5: 1977 (80pp)
6: 1978 (87pp)
7: 1979 (148pp)

8: 1980 (101pp)
9: 1981 (88pp)
10:1982 (68pp)
11:1983 (34pp)
12:1984 (33pp)

Studies

1. J.J. Keleher & K.Z. Hendin, "Manitoba Environmental Problems & Public Opinion"
2. W.G. Leitch & J.J. Keleher, "Garrison Diversion Project Presentations" (1974), 61 pp
3. J.J. Keleher, "Manitoba Environmental Agencies and Activities: (1974), 4 pp
4. D.H. Boyd, "Impacts of the Garrison Diversion Unit on Canada: (1975), 171 pp
5. K.B. Richmond & J.J. Keleher, "Manitoba 2000: Population Size and Distribution" (1975), 130 pp
6. Ken Arenson, Chairman, "Nuclear Energy: Fact and Fantasy" (1975), 35 pp
7. H.J. Selwood, "The Winnipeg Townscape: A Survey Guide" (1975), 35 pp
8. William Bell, Chairman, "Rural Land Use Conflict: Some Solutions" (1977), 130 pp
9. W.J. Turnock, Chairman, "The Energy Issue: Demand and Supply" (1977), 162 pp
10. Alex Fedoruk, Chairman, "Manitoba Water Quality Objectives: How Far Do We Go?" (1978), 145 pp
11. Peter Aitchison, Chairman, "Trees and Pesticides: An Environmental Dilemma" (1978), 37 pp
12. Ken Arenson, Chairman, "Winnipeg 100: Alternative Futures" (1978), 112 pp
13. Rosemary Malaher, Chairman, "Environmental Education: Hope for the Future" (1979), 51 pp
14. John Jack, Chairman, "Parks for Manitoba: Policy and Practice" (1981), 48 pp
15. David Punter, Chairman, "10th Anniversary Celebration" (1982), 41 pp

Topics

1. J.B. Nickels, Chairman, "Environmental Quality Preferences" (1982), 22 pp
2. Anna E. Polonyi, "Wildlife Designation of Manitoba Crown Lands: Problems and Conflicts" (1984), 75 pp
3. Lloyd Axworthy and Ken Arenson, Chairmen, "Southern Indian Lake and Hydro Development" (1984), 73 pp
4. A. Tompkins, I. Krampetz, D. Muir, D. Malley, "Survey of Environmental Monitoring Programs in Manitoba" (1984), 46 pp

Membership Committee Report

Margaret K. Friesen

The Membership Committee consisting of Donna Blight, Olga Weber, Keri Barringer (MEC Co-ordinator) and myself met five times over the past year to draw up recommendations for presentation to the MEC Board of Directors regarding changes to MEC Membership.

New individual members for the 1985/86 term are: Martin Egan, John Fortier, Jean Macdonald, Dennis Muldrew and Catherine Thexton. The appointments of J. Ross, Ruth Marr, Ross Webster and Robert Drake are awaiting approval. New members representing organizations are:

M. Eliason, City of Winnipeg Council
D. Fillion, Winnipeg Labour Council
K. Fumerton, Manitoba Federation of Labour
C. Harrison, Manitoba Institute of Agrologists
D. McKenzie, Town of Selkirk
R. Newman, Mining Association of Manitoba
R. Van Lieshout, Manitoba Parks and Recreation Assoc.

There are presently 96 members; 53 are individual and 43 represent organizations. Of the total, 74 members reside in urban areas and 22 in rural areas.

The membership list is currently being updated.

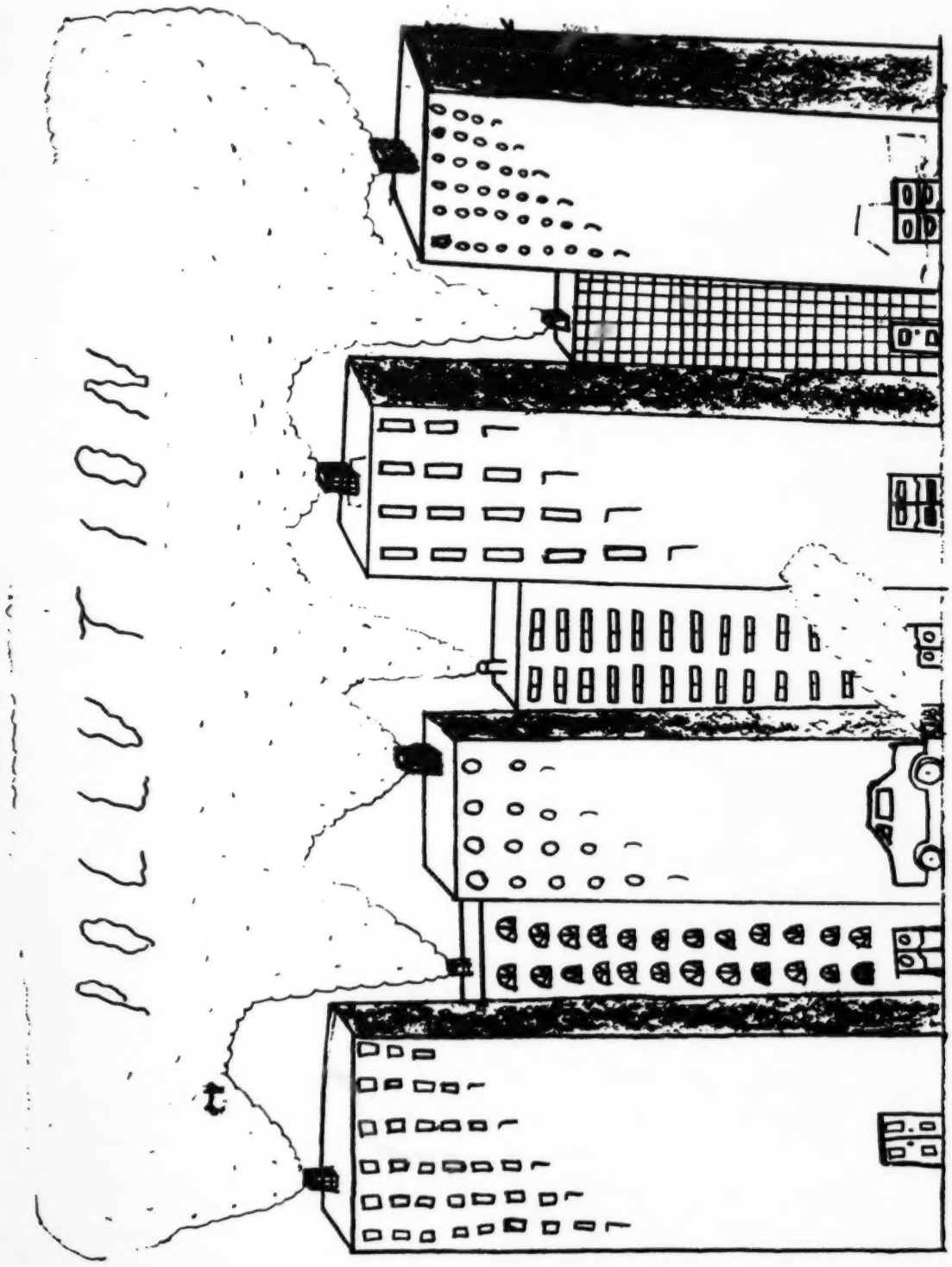
Priorities of this committee outlined in last year's membership report were to monitor members' participation in MEC activities, improve the orientation of new members and maintain and increase representation of rural areas.

Participation of members living in Winnipeg was monitored through a telephone survey and through interviews with chairpersons of MEC Committees. Memberships of inactive members will not be renewed when their terms expire. We recommend to next year's Membership Committee that this monitoring program also be conducted for members living outside of Winnipeg.

A procedure for new members orientation has been drawn up. Briefly, this consists of sending new members the orientation package prepared by the Education Committee and contacting them by phone to answer questions. New member orientation will be largely the responsibility of the MEC Co-ordinator.

The representation of rural members is similar to that of last year. It was felt that one of the best ways of recruiting rural members would be to set up the MEC display booth at country fairs during the summer. There has been excellent public response when the booth is displayed in Winnipeg shopping centres.

Anyone having suggestions on how one would go about arranging to set up a booth at a country fair is



Category Grades 4-6 — 2nd Prize — Calvin Funk, Steinbach, MB

asked to contact Keri Barringer. Rural members should be aware that they can request a budget from the MEC Board of Directors for long distance phone calls made to other members on MEC meetings.

I thank Olga, Donna and Keri for the work they have done serving on the Membership Committee this past year. For personal reasons, I have decided not to let my term on MEC be renewed. I have enjoyed serving as secretary of MEC in 1983/84 and as Membership Chairperson in 1984/85. I wish MEC and its members success in achieving collective and individual goals.

* * *

Presented at the May 10, 1985 Council Meeting

Membership List

Honourary Members

Dr. W. George Bowen
Hon. Jay Cowan
Miss Catherine Howlett
Hon. Gerard Lecuyer
Dr. Thomas Owen

Advisors
Mr. A.J. Derksen
Prof. E. Dore
Mr. Thomas W. Drew
Dr. Roy Ellis
Mr. James Murray
Mr. Alex Penman
Mrs. D. Sproule
Mr. D.R. Thompson
Dr. G.R.B. Webster
Mr. Irwin H. Wiseman
Mr. Terry Youmans

Charter Members
Dr. P.W. Aitchison, Winnipeg
J.F. Palamarchuk, Winnipeg
Dr. W.O. Pruitt, Jr., Winnipeg

Council Members

Dr. P.W. Aitchison, Winnipeg
J.F. Palamarchuk, Winnipeg
Mr. A.G. Allan, Winnipeg
Dr. P.W. Arnfield, Winnipeg
Dr. A.F.J. Artibise, Winnipeg
Mr. R.M. Austman, Altona
Mr. C.P. Bennett, Winnipeg
Mrs. Donna Blight, Winnipeg
Mr. Jack Brown, Winnipeg
Ms. Yong Cha-Cho, Winnipeg
Mr. Stephen J. Copen, Winnipeg
Dr. Wayne Cowan, Winnipeg
Mrs. Judy Croy, Stonewall
Dr. Bruce Dexter, Winnipeg
Dr. P.E. Doyle, Winnipeg
Mr. Robert Drake, Winnipeg
Mr. Herold Driedger, Winnipeg
Mr. Norman Eadie, Winnipeg
Mr. Martin Egan, Winnipeg
Mr. M. Eliason, Winnipeg
Mr. Kenneth E. Emberly, Winnipeg
Ms. Doris Fillion, Winnipeg
Mr. John Fortier, Winnipeg
Miss Vera Fryer, Winnipeg
Mr. Ken Froning, Winnipeg
Mr. Timothy Fultz, Winnipeg
Mr. Ken Fumerton, Winnipeg
Mr. Don Glays, Winnipeg
Mrs. Irene Grant, Winnipeg
Mr. Clifford Harrison, Winnipeg
Mr. Rick D. Howard, Seddon's Corner
Mr. Bob Imrie, Flin Flon
Mr. Laverne Jaeb, The Pas
Mr. E.B. Johanson, The Pas
Mr. J.A. Knight, MacDonald
Mr. Harold A. Laine, Winnipeg
Ms. Meredith Lamb, The Pas
Dr. A.M. Lansdown, Winnipeg
Mr. R. Lepischak, Neepawa
Ms. Elizabeth MacEwan, Winnipeg
Dr. Diane F. Malley, Winnipeg
Mr. J. Michael McKernan, Winnipeg
Dr. A.C. Maniar, Winnipeg
Ms. Jane O. Maurer, Winnipeg
Mr. Dave McKenzie, Winnipeg
Mr. Larry Milian, Winnipeg
Mr. W.W. Morgan, Gimli
Dr. D. Muir, Winnipeg
Mr. Dennis Muldrew, Winnipeg
Mr. Wayne Neily, Winnipeg
Dr. Terry G. Neraasen, Winnipeg
Mr. R. Newman, Winnipeg
Dr. J.B. Nickels, Winnipeg
Mrs. Linda Norman, Winnipeg
Mr. J.F. Palamarchuk, Winnipeg
Mr. Bohdan J. Palamarchuk, Winnipeg
Mrs. Gwen Parker, Winnipeg
Mrs. Betty Pawlicki, Winnipeg
Mr. Geo. P. Penner, Steinbach
Mr. Ronald Phillips, Winnipeg
Mr. Russ Phillips, Dauphin
Dr. William O. Pruitt, Jr., Winnipeg
Mr. Roger J. Ptashnik, Winnipeg
Dr. David Punter, Winnipeg
Prof. J.M. Richtik, Winnipeg
Dr. Carl Ridd, Winnipeg
Mr. J.D. Robertson, Dauphin
Dr. I.M. Rollo, Winnipeg
Mr. John L.S. Ross, Winnipeg

Prof. Basil M. Rotoff, Winnipeg
Mr. Walter Rybuck, Winnipeg
Mr. D.S. Schellenberg, Altona
Prof. H.J. Selwood, Winnipeg
Dr. Jennifer Shay, Winnipeg
Mr. Eugene Sheremeta, Winnipeg
Mr. Jim Shields, Winnipeg
Mr. Barry Silver, Winnipeg
Mr. Ron Strynadka, Thompson
Mr. Chris Sundevic, Thompson
Ms. Catherine Thexton, Winnipeg
Dr. W.J. Turnock, Winnipeg
Mr. Murray W. Wagner, Winnipeg
Ms. Jenny Rose Ward, Winnipeg
Mrs. Olga Weber, Winnipeg
Mr. Barry Wild, Winnipegosis

Council Organizations

Association of Manitoba Archaeologists
Canadian Institute of Forestry
Canadian Manufacturers Association
Citizenship Council of Manitoba
Ducks Unlimited (Canada)
East-Man Regional Development Corporation
Entomological Society of Manitoba
Four Nations Confederacy
Home & School Parent-Teachers Federation of Manitoba
Interlake Development Corporation Inc.
Junior League of Winnipeg
Keystone Agriculture Producers
Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses
Manitoba Association of Urban Municipalities
Manitoba Bar Association
Manitoba Chambers of Commerce
Manitoba Federation of Labour
Manitoba Forestry Association Inc.
Manitoba Institute of Agrologists
Manitoba Medical Association
Manitoba Naturalists Society
Manitoba Nursery & Landscape Association
Manitoba Parks & Recreation Association
Manitoba Real Estate Association
Manitoba Teachers Society
Manitoba Wildlife Federation
Manitoba Women's Institute
Mining Association of Manitoba
Norman Regional Development Corporation
Parkland Regional Development Corporation
Pembina Valley Regional Development Corporation
Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba
Selkirk — Town Council
Treaty & Aboriginal Rights Research Centre
Union of Manitoba Municipalities
United Steelworkers of America (Local 7106)
United Steelworkers of America (Local 6166)
University Women's Club of Winnipeg
Winnipeg — City Council
Winnipeg Labour Council

Report of Nominating Committee

Basil Rotoff

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Prof. B. Rotoff, Mrs. D. Blight and Dr. D. Punter, after due consideration proposes the following slate of officers for 1985/86:

Chairperson	Dr. D. Malley
Vice-Chairperson	Dr. I. Rollo
Secretary	Mr. H. Driedger
Past Chairperson	Dr. A. Maniar
Membership	Mrs. O. Weber
Regional Chairpersons:	
Interlake	Mr. W. Aitken
Norman	Mr. E. Johanson
Central Plains	Mr. J. Knight
Parkland	Mr. B. Wild
Pembina Valley	Dr. R. Zimmer
Winnipeg	Mrs. E. Pawlicki
Eastman	Mr. Rick Howard
Parliamentarian	Miss C. Howlett

- The Publications Chairperson is to be appointed by the Executive
- The position of Westman Regional Chairperson has been left vacant for lack of a membership base in this region. We recommend that the membership committee recruit a Westman member for this area.

New Chairperson's Remarks to Manitoba Environmental Council Annual Meeting, University of Manitoba, May 10, 1985

First I wish to thank the Council for giving me the honour and responsibility to steer the ship for a year. In the 5 years I have been with the Council, I have found it an important vehicle for directing my concern for maintaining and improving our environment. I would like to see that all members on the Council fulfill the goals that brought them to seek membership on the Council.

Before looking toward the Council's future, I would like, on behalf of the new executive, to thank the outgoing executive, Drs. Atish Maniar and Terry Neraasen. Dr. Neraasen provided the Council with a comprehensive and accurate record of its deliberations. The minutes of Board and general body meetings are very important as they are the main form of communication between the Board and members at

large. As you know, the Council underwent a review of its activities a couple of years ago. The Board under the leadership of Dr. Maniar considered several possible fates for the Council in terms of its relationship to the government, sources of funding and so on. In my opinion, it is largely due to the good judgement, leadership and intense sense of loyalty to the Council on the part of Atish Maniar that sees the Council today in a position of relative security, with a workable level of funding and with excellent supports from the government in terms of staff and facilities. We can turn our attention today to ways to develop our potential instead of ways to survive as an organization.

MEC is a unique organization. It has the advantages of government funding and support services and access not only to the Minister's office but to technical staff and policy makers throughout the government. On the other hand, it takes part in the ENGO network and considers issues and takes positions independently of government. This position is not without risk but it is a position of immense opportunity and potential power. It is gratifying at this time to have a Minister and Deputy Minister who see the Council as a positive force and who keep the lines of communication very open. As evidence of this Mr. Lecuyer has delivered this morning some very specific offers of collaboration which I propose we discuss at the first Board meeting.

In many respects, the Council is not as well known to the public or as effective in influencing environmental decisions as our size and competence of our members would indicate. I would like to make some proposals to the Council to increase our effectiveness in the coming year. I'll break these down into three areas: administration, prioritizing of issues and public awareness or marketing.

In administration, the aim is to make the routine, routine and to increase staff time for coordinating Council activities, inter-acting with the public and responding to emergency or emerging issues. Specifically, I will urge that the position of MEC secretary be filled as quickly as possible and with a person with environmental interests as well as office skills. Secondly, it is necessary that the Council have direct access to word processing and that that is used for virtually all of our written material as is now standard office practice. Thirdly, I will pursue the possibility that the Council could obtain some assistance within the government in the routine aspects of editing of publications.

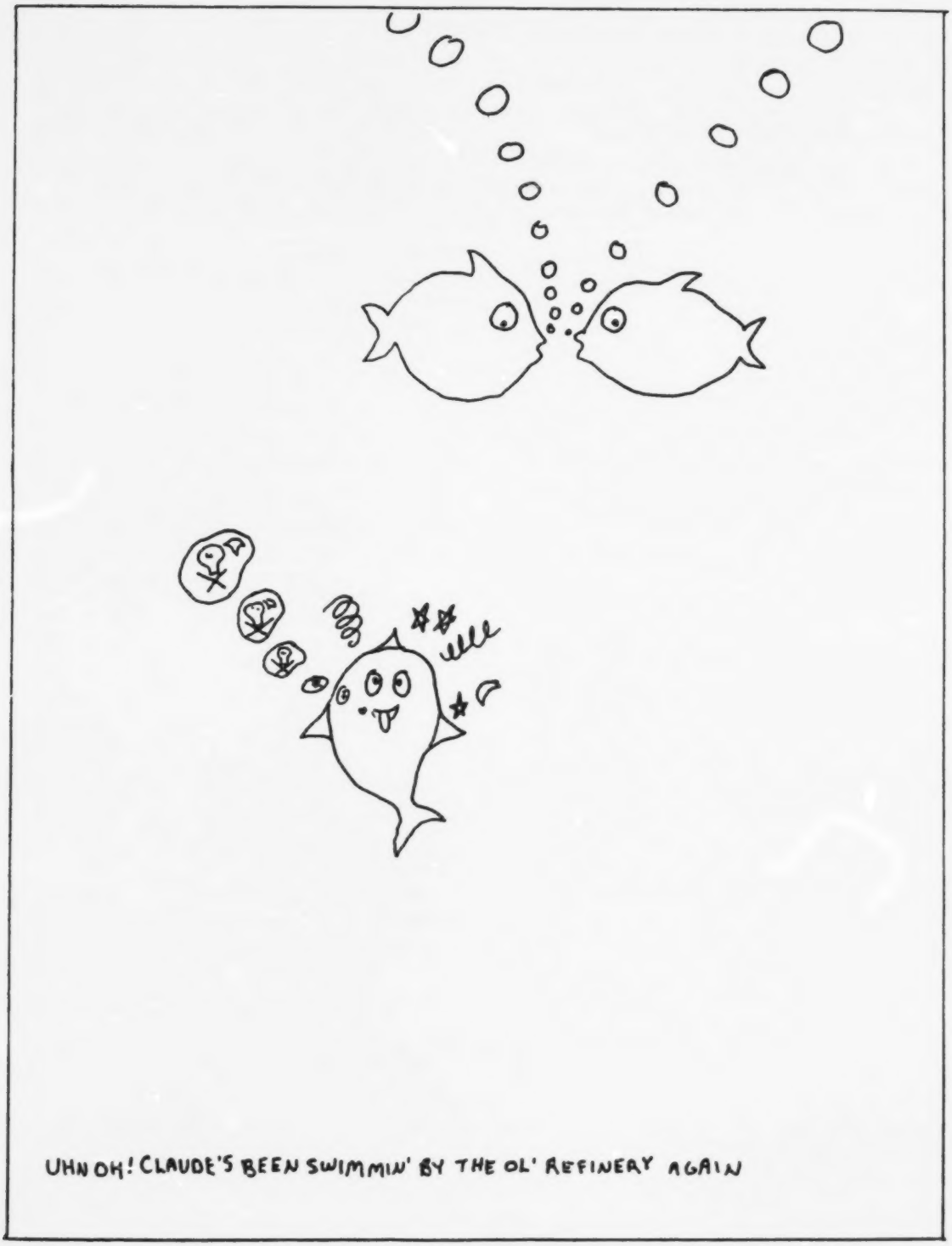
Fourthly, I propose we increase the efficiency of the Board meetings by circulating in advance the agenda, technical committee reports and notice of new business to be discussed.

In the area of prioritizing of issues dealt with by Council, I propose a planning meeting in June to discuss priorities considering issues brought by the regional chairpersons, the priorities of the Department, the hearings scheduled by the Clean Environment Commission, necessary follow-up on past issues and current events. The Board will discuss the priorities at its August meeting and communicate the priorities to the Technical Committees for study and development of briefs. The All-Technical Committees meeting in early September will then become a meeting to plan the work and distribute tasks. Further, I propose we develop a current issues committee of members who watch the media and can alert the executive about emergency or current events to which the Council should respond.

In the area of public awareness, I propose that we request the Minister to meet with the Council publicly for a formal presentation of the briefs after we have submitted the briefs to him and allowed time for his responses. It would be desirable to invite any other Ministers mentioned in our briefs such as the Minister of Education or of Natural Resources. This public meeting would provide for more efficient discussion between the Minister, and his staff, and the Council on the substance of the briefs than is presently the case. I propose that we sponsor one conference or workshop or several smaller public events during the year which involve public participation and which have a specific outcome. In relation to these events and other Council activities, I propose we develop a public awareness plan. I propose that we augment the function of the membership committee to include human resources and that we identify members who would be willing to speak to groups about the Council or engage in other interactions with the public.

I look forward to a full and productive year for the Council.

Diane F. Malley
Chairperson, 1985-86



Category Open — 1st Prize — Brian Johnson, Winnipeg, MB

Past Council Chairpersons

The first organizational meeting of the Manitoba Environmental Council was held on January 28, 1972 when various task forces were set up to establish the Council's direction and operation. The following have served as the Council's Chairpersons:

1972-73 Lloyd Axworthy
1973-74 Lloyd Axworthy (to December 5, 1973)
Ken Arenson (balance of term)
1974-75 Ken Arenson
1975-76 Allen M. Lansdown
1976-77 W.J. Turnock
1977-78 Onno Kremers
1978-79 David Punter
1979-80 Rosemary Malaher
1980-81 Basil M. Rotoff
1981-82 Bill Kennedy
1982-83 Bill Kennedy
1983-84 Atish Maniar
1984-85 Atish Maniar

Council Staff

Keri Barringer — Coordinator

Finances and Administration

The Manitoba Environmental Council is funded by a legislative appropriation to the Environmental Management Division. The cost of administration services, e.g. accounting and secretarial, is largely borne by the Division.

Fiscal Year	Voted	Expended	Per Cent
1971-72	N/A	N/A	N/A
1972-73	$ 2,500	N/A	N/A
1973-74	18,200	$ 7,400	41
1974-75	17,100	15,000	88
1975-76	15,000	16,200	108
1976-77	13,100	11,700	89
1977-78	16,300	15,132	93
1978-79	16,900	16,621	98
1979-80	16,900	20,432	121
1980-81	16,900	16,894	99
1981-82	25,800	27,437	106
1982-83	28,400	36,144*	127
1983-84	27,700	18,558	67
1984-85	12,700	23,067	182

*Additional funding of $7,744. was provided via Special Warrant.

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Expenditures 1984-85

Type	Amount
Vehicle Mileage	$ 3,962.
Airfare	1,770
Livery	75
Courier	229
Telephone	210
Other fees (postage, repairs)	15
Advertising	467
Publication Printing & Supplies	10,656
Equipment Miscellaneous	295
Subsistence	1,816
Computer related services	2,045
Library Subscriptions	7
Special Dinners, Events, Miscellaneous	4,460
Course Fees	60
TOTAL	$23,067.

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Colophon

Cover: Queen's Printer

Typography: Typeface — Helvetica
— Helvetica Italic
— Helvetica Bold
— Helvetica Bold Italic
Headlines — Helvetica Extra Bold
Text — Helvetica

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Darlene Watson

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